

AGENDA
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M.
Room WW53
Tuesday, January 19, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
Introduce	Welcome and Introduction of Committee Page Nina Harelson and Committee Intern Ryan Lawrence	Chairman Rice
Rules Assignment	Distribution of Rules for Review	Vice Chairman Bayer

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Rice	Sen Den Hartog
Vice Chairman Bayer	Sen Harris
Sen Patrick	Sen Ward-Engelking
Sen Souza	Sen Burgoyne
Sen Lee	

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Carol Deis
Room: WW31
Phone: 332-1330
email: sagri@senate.idaho.gov

MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, January 19, 2016
TIME: 8:00 A.M.
PLACE: Room WW53
MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice Chairman Bayer, Senators Souza, Lee, Den Hartog, Harris and Burgoyne
ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Chairman Rice, Senators Patrick and Ward-Engelking
NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.
CONVENED: **Vice Chairman Bayer** called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.
INTRODUCTION: **Vice Chairman Bayer** introduced Nina Harelson, Agricultural Affairs Committee page.
RULE ASSIGNMENT: **Vice Chairman Bayer** advised that after assessing the rules for the Committee, it was determined that there was no need for individual rule assignments. The Committee was instructed to look over the rules and be prepared for the hearings starting January 21, 2016.
ADJOURNED: There being no further business, **Vice Chairman Bayer** adjourned the meeting at 8:09 a.m.

Senator Rice
Chair

Carol Deis
Secretary

AGENDA
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M.
Room WW53
Thursday, January 21, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
Presentation:	PNWER - Invasive Species - Zebra and Quagga Mussels	Representative Mike Cuffe, Montana, Matt Morrison, Executive Director PNWER
Docket No.		
02-0214-1501	Rules for Weights and Measures	Stacies Ybarra, Ag Program Specialist
02-0421-1501	Rules Governing Importation of Animals	Dr. Scott Leibsle, Deputy State Veterinarian
02-0429-1501	Rules Governing Trichomoniasis	Dr. Scott Leibsle, Deputy State Veterinarian
02-0602-1501	Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Commercial Feed Law	Jared Stuart, Ag Section Manager
02-0612-1501	Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Fertilizer Law	Jared Stuart, Ag Section Manager
02-0622-1501	Noxious Weed Rules	Matt Voile, Ag Section Manager
02-0625-1501	Rules Governing the Planting of Beans, Other Than <i>Phaseolus Species</i> , In Idaho	Jared Stuart, Ag Section Manager
02-0641-1501	Rules Pertaining to Soil and Plant Amendments	Jared Stuart, Ag Section Manager

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Rice
Vice Chairman Bayer
Sen Patrick
Sen Souza
Sen Lee

Sen Den Hartog
Sen Harris
Sen Ward-Engelking
Sen Burgoyne

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MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 21, 2016

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rice, Vice Chairman Bayer, Senators Patrick, Souza, Lee, Den Hartog, Harris, Ward-Engelking and Burgoyne

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:**

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Vice Chairman Bayer** called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

PRESENTATION: **Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER), Invasive Species - Zebra and Quagga Mussels. Representative Mike Cuff**, Montana, Vice President of PNWER, explained their strategic defense perimeter in the prevention of the spread of invasive mussels in the Pacific Northwest. Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Wyoming and Montana make up the last major region in North America that does not have these invasive species. Because of the efforts of Eric Anderson, Idaho has lead the way in the prevention and monitoring of these species and has appropriated annually from state funds \$1.2 million for the inspection of watercraft movement within their borders. Funds were obtained from the federal Water Resources Development Act, which has authorized the establishment of a program to prevent and manage aquatic invasive species in these states (see attachment 1). For fiscal year 2016 \$4 million was appropriated to conduct monitoring and risk assessment of each major public and private water resources facility in the Basin. These funds will be administrated through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the inspection and monitoring of watercraft in the Basin.

In summary, **Mr. Cuff** thanked Idaho for leading the way in the prevention and monitoring of this invasive species and also for the persistent efforts of Eric Anderson in pushing this legislation to the forefront for the region.

Senator Souza asked what are the source areas of the contamination? Are their any remediation efforts that have been effective, and can you stop them at their source? **Mr. Cuff** advised that the efforts at the sources have been improved. Efforts have been stepped up in the main sources, such as Lake Mead and the Great Lakes. Still the best option is prevention by inspecting the boats that come into the state.

Senator Harris asked if other water gear is inspected for the mussels as well. **Mr. Cuff** explained that efforts are being made to include scuba gear, wave runners and floats on airplanes for inclusion in the inspection process.

DOCKET NO.

02-0214-1501

Rules for Weights and Measures. Stacie Ybarra, Agriculture Program Specialist, Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) explained the amendment text can be found on page 5 under Section - 004, which references the 2016 edition of "Handbook 44". The Weights and Measures Program's primary purpose is to inspect and test commercial weighing and measuring devices such as gas pumps or scales used to buy or sell crops or livestock. This is an annual update to the rule to incorporate the current date-specific edition of "Handbook 44".

Maintaining a current handbook is important to weight's and measures officials and the service industry that repairs commercial weighing or measuring devices. It also promotes uniformity by keeping the codes current with new technology and uniform with surrounding states that also adopt this reference handbook.

Senator Den Hartog asked are there major changes to Handbook 44 for each of the years that need to be incorporated by reference? **Ms. Ybarra** explained that this year there were 37 amendments and 6 editorial changes. The most significant changes involved electrical vehicle charging changes, gas pump calibration and field use of trucks for law enforcement.

MOTION:

Senator Burgoyne moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0214-1501**. Seconded by **Senator Den Hartog**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO.

02-0421-1501

Rules Governing Importation of Animals. Dr. Scott Leibsle, Deputy State Veterinarian, Idaho State Department of Agriculture, indicated the premise for this proposed rule change is in regard to modification of requirements for importing cattle into the State of Idaho for surveying for the disease trichomoniasis. Trichomoniasis is a venereal disease that is contagious among cattle. Idaho has the longest-standing trichomoniasis surveillance perimeter, started in 1989, in the country.

There are four variables that are typically seen in how trichomoniasis is tested for: 1) what age is a bull considered a virgin; 2) type of test used to identify the organism; 3) whether pooling of the test is allowed; and 4) how long test results are valid.

Idaho has its own standards, as do many of the western states; the complaint from the industry was that it was too confusing moving from one state's standards to another when importing cattle. The request for rule change came out of the Western States Livestock Health Association (Association) meeting for the western states to harmonize their trichomoniasis regulations.

The following changes to the rule are for animals that are moving within the State: 1) change the virgin age of a bull to 18 months and 2) increase the validity of the test results from 30 days to 60 days. **Chairman Rice** asked for Dr. Leibsle to cover any concerns he would foresee in lengthening the time for the validity of the test and the age of the bull. Could this lead to missing an infected animal and create a greater risk to the livestock of our State? **Dr. Leibsle** explained the lengthened time for test results was done for those entities involved in bull sales. The animals are often sold in a group and sometimes cannot be transported in their entirety within a reasonable period; they are isolated until the transport of the group is completed. Increasing the virgin age was a consensus agreement among the Western states. Idaho's testing program is one of the most successful in the United States. When the program was initially started in 1989, more than 500 positive bulls tested that year; in the last three years there have been less than 5.

Senator Lee asked which states are not in the Association. **Dr. Leibsle** replied there are two holdout states, Nevada and California, that are stuck on some specific points. In Nevada the virgin age for a bull is 9 months. Nevada has had ongoing infections in all forms of trichomoniasis; for their needs the regulations need to be tighter. California is not convinced that pooling of tests is not a loss in sensitivity.

Senator Lee said how does that impact the animals that would come from Nevada to Idaho? **Dr. Leibsle** answered the animals coming into Idaho from Nevada still have to meet the import requirements, which are 18 months of age tested; test results would be valid for 60 days. If cattle coming in from Nevada came from a farm that had tested positive, the herd would be recorded and processed as a contact herd.

Senator Burgoyne said is the 18-month risk deemed by you and the ISDA an acceptable risk for the State? **Dr. Leibsle** replied the field staff and Dr. Leibsle's office at ISDA are confident that they can adequately maintain the success of the trichomoniasis program with the new regulations.

Chairman Rice stated that this body has a constitutional obligation when it comes to livestock and questioned what changes in the follow-up procedures might be affected by the changes in testing procedures. **Dr. Leibsle** explained when they find a trichomoniasis positive the State Lab performs a PCR test to confirm the initial positive test and then the animal would go to slaughter. Then the herd would be quarantined until additional testing is performed on the other bulls in the same herd.

Senator Harris allowed that as a cattle producer he is comfortable with the changes in the rule. **Senator Harris** asked are there some cattle producers that are not following these testing procedures? **Dr. Leibsle** answered there are very few large producers that do not follow these testing rules because it is just not good business. Cases of trichomoniasis are typically found with single producers that have very small herds. The enforcement and outreach that has been done by ISDA has driven the positive testing numbers to very few animals.

MOTION: **Senator Patrick** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0421-1501**. Seconded by **Senator Lee**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO.

02-0429-1501

Rules Governing Trichomoniasis. **Dr. Scott Leibsle**, said this rule prepares the general management of the trichomoniasis program. The changes are the same variables bearing the validity of the tests: the virgin age of the bull; what type of test is performed, culture or PCR;; allowing pooling. All the changes were to include PCR to extend the validity of the test.

Chairman Rice clarified that what is being stricken in this rule is the requirement that the sample be submitted to the lab within 48 hours. Could you expand on why is there no time frame needed using the PCR testing? **Dr. Leibsle** explained the reason that has changed is the time frame was for confirmatory testing. Field veterinarians are certified to do the culture; if the culture comes up positive, it is sent to the State Lab to confirm. The State Lab does not perform culture to confirm; they perform PCR testing. PCR does not need the organism to be alive, so the 48-hour requirement is no longer relevant for testing.

MOTION: **Senator Souza** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0429-1501**. Seconded by **Chairman Rice**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO.

02-0602-1501

Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Commercial Feed Law, **Jared Stuart**, Agriculture Section Manager, Idaho State Department of Agriculture, said Idaho incorporates by reference standard manuals used nationally by industry. Regulatory officials provide producers with clear and defined definitions and terms, as well as acceptable standard practices and policies. In this instance the manual is the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAPFCO) publication. This rule change updates the rule to reference the most recently available copy of the manual so that terms, definition and standards are up to date for producers and regulators in the state. This also ensures that producers and distributors do not have to worry about changing standards from state to state while producing and distributing product in Idaho.

Senator Den Hartog stated when agencies are incorporating by reference, it would be helpful for the Committee to have a list or include in the presentation the substantive changes from year to year. **Mr. Stuart** explained that most of the changes in the incorporated references are changes in definitions and descriptions of ingredients. **Senator Den Hartog** stated that some other state agencies that incorporate by reference provide reference changes on a thumb drive so that the Committee members can look at the references prior to reviewing the rule. Even brief notes from the presenting agency expanding on the changes from these referenced documents and highlighting their potential impact to the rule would be helpful.

MOTION: **Senator Harris** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0602-1501**. Seconded by **Senator Den Hartog**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO.

02-0612-1501

Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Fertilizer Law. **Jared Stuart**, Agriculture Section Manager, stated this is another incorporation by references rule to the Idaho Commercial Fertilizer Law. This adoption by reference comes from the Association of American Plant Food Control Officials (AAPFCO) that is referenced in the Idaho Fertilizer Law, as well as in the Idaho Soil and Plant Amendment Act of 2001. The AAPFCO publication is updated annually and provides a national standard for the industry to follow.

Chairman Rice asked are any of the changes in the fertilizer rules governed by the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA)? **Mr. Stuart** answered that the changes are not driven by FSMA; these changes are set at the federal level and they do not apply to the AAPFCO. ISDA has not seen any changes with the commercial changes from FSMA in the manual or in any of the rules.

Senator Burgoyne advised that he supports Senator Den Hartog's request for more information on the rule changes when they use publications for incorporation by reference. A summary of the changes supplied by the agencies when these rules have incorporation by reference would be a sufficient avenue for reference.

MOTION: **Senator Burgoyne** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0612-1501**. Seconded by **Senator Ward - Engelking**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO.

02-0622-1501

Noxious Weed Rules, Matt Voile, Agriculture Section Manager, Idaho State Department of Agriculture, advised that in August of 2014, a pioneer colony of Purple and/or Iberian Starthistle was identified in Twin Falls County, Idaho. Upon notification and confirmation of the identity of the plant, these species were listed as Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) Species under the Director's temporary listing authority Section 22-2404(1)(u), Idaho Code. Additionally, the population was treated by Twin Falls County weed control personnel.

On page 24 of the pending rule, note the addition of the two new species in the EDRR list; Iberian Starthistle (*Centaurea iberica*) and Purple Starthistle (*Centaurea calcitrapa*).

MOTION: **Senator Ward-Engelking** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0612-1501**. Seconded by **Senator Dan Hartog**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**DOCKET NO.
02-0625-1501**

Rules Governing the Planting of Beans, Other Than *Phaseolus Species*, In Idaho. **Jared Stuart**, stated that late in 2014, ISDA received petitions from the industry to amend the Non-Phaseolus bean rule to add the same trial ground exemption to the rule as exists in the similar Phaseolus bean rule.

1) For imported seed, add the trial ground exemption for small seed lots. This would allow for multiple growing season inspections in lieu of required testing where the testing would result in the destruction of much of the seed lot. This has been added as Section 250 to the existing rule.

2) Add language to the soil requirement in Section 13 to clarify the zero tolerance for soil applies to seed that was produced outside of Idaho or Malheur County, Oregon.

3) In Section 03.(e) as a housekeeping item, remove the statement about the need for growing season inspections. This is already stated in Section 200 of the existing rule.

This will make it possible for companies to import small seed lots safely into Idaho while avoiding seed destruction, at the same time not compromising the safety of the Idaho agriculture from threats of plant pests and disease.

Senator Lee stated Malheur County, Oregon, is in another state, so it is really important to her district that the growers, packers and producers work across the state borders in a cooperative way. She complimented the ISDA for recognizing that working in conjunction with other states is beneficial to the future of agriculture.

Senator Patrick commented that as a seed grower, this rule change brings up concerns and he asked for further explanation. **Mr. Stuart** recounted the changes to the rule that incorporate a trial ground exemption. Their division tests any bean seed that comes into Idaho, capable of transferring serious seed diseases that could harm the seed industry and the export market. If the seed passes their testing, it may be planted. A trial ground exemption allows research facilities to bring small lots of seed into the State of Idaho without testing. These research facilities are allowed a seed lot of one pound or less that is planted and that much of it is destroyed in the research. To avoid the destruction of all of the seed, the trial ground exemption is put in place, which moves from testing for diseases to five inspections during the growing season. **Senator Patrick** explained that he was concerned about bringing in any diseased seed. **Mr. Stuart** stated that regarding risk of diseased seed, this trial ground exemption has been in place for the bean industry since rules were introduced. ISDA has not seen any issues of risk. These rules specifically reference the beans rather than Phaseolus bean seed.

Chairman Rice questioned what gives ISDA confidence that this trial process will not open the door for a seed crop that might damage Idaho's ability to sell seed all over the world. **Mr. Stuart** replied that trial ground exemption have been in place since 2003 and they have been doing inspections since that time. Their department has seen no manifestation of disease that has resulted in any outbreak.

Senator Souza questioned what measurable benefit there would be in approving this rule. **Mr. Stuart** answered that the petition by research companies was brought before ISDA for them to research on different lots for characteristics. If this rule is not approved, it will limit the companies' research capabilities.

MOTION:

Senator Patrick moved to hold **Docket No. 02-0625-1501** for a time certain of one week. Seconded by **Senator Souza**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**DOCKET NO.
02-0641-1501**

Rules Pertaining to Soil and Plant Amendments. The Committee ran out of time to address this docket. The rule will be heard at the next Committee meeting on January 26, 2016.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, **Vice Chairman Bayer** adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

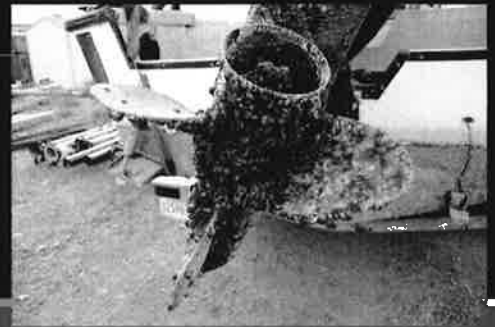
Senator Rice
Chair

Carol Deis
Secretary

Preventing the Spread of Invasive Mussels: A regional perimeter defense strategy



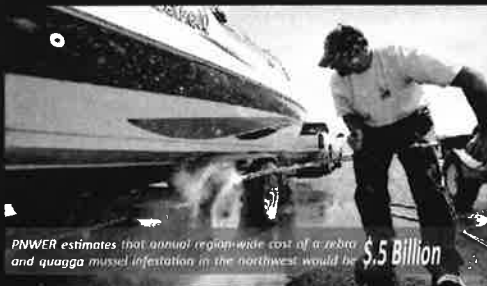
Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region



Zebra and Quagga Mussels: An invasive threat to the region's economy and environment

Advancing a Regional Defense Against Invasive Mussels

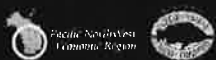
A REPORT PREPARED BY THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST ECONOMIC REGION AND PACIFIC STATES
MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION



- Invasive zebra and quagga mussels change water quality and attach themselves to surfaces damaging hydropower facilities, irrigation pipelines, fish hatcheries, and industry
- The Pacific Northwest is the last major region in North America that does not have these invasive species

PNWER estimates that ANNUAL region-wide cost of a zebra and quagga mussel infestation in the northwest would be

\$500 million



Summary

I. Support the continued appropriation of the \$4 million in WRRDA funds in the fiscal year 2017 budget for the four states

- See Draft resolution

II. Continue to support and grow the program in the state of Idaho

- WRRDA funds require a one-to-one match

AMENDED AGENDA #1
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M.
Room WW53
Tuesday, January 26, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
RS24154C1	Relating to Livestock	Senator Brackett
RS24156	Relating to the Commission on Pesticide Management	Darrell Bolz
Docket No.		
46-0101-1501	Rules of the State of Idaho Board of Veterinary Medicine	Jodie Ellis, Executive Director
Minutes	Approve Minutes of January 19, 2016	Senators Burgoyne and Patrick

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Rice	Sen Den Hartog
Vice Chairman Bayer	Sen Harris
Sen Patrick	Sen Ward-Engelking
Sen Souza	Sen Burgoyne
Sen Lee	

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Carol Deis
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MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, January 26, 2016

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rice, Vice Chairman Bayer, Senators Patrick, Souza, Lee, Den Hartog, Harris, Ward-Engelking and Burgoyne

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None.

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Rice** called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

RS 24154C1 **Relating to Livestock.** **Senator Brackett** said this legislation closes a loophole in current code and rule that allows trichomoniasis test-eligible bulls to be removed from a trader lot and returned to the country for breeding purposes without the appropriate trichomoniasis testing. In addition, the bill consists of definitions of various animal health requirements for different marketing practices and places them in code and rule to consolidate them in one code section. The bill provides traceability and a paper trail as livestock moves through the marketing channels.

Senator Lee asked does this clarify and resolve some of the concerns the Committee had last year with a rule. **Senator Brackett** responded that he had worked closely with Dr. Barton, at the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), as well as engaged all segments of the industry with the rule that was considered in 2015.

MOTION: **Senator Burgoyne** moved to print **RS 24154C1**. Seconded by **Senator Lee**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

RS 24156 **Relating to the Commission on Pesticide Management,** **Darrell Bolz** stated this legislation is to repeal Chapter 18, Title 22, Idaho Code relating to the Commission on Pesticide Management (Commission). The Commission was formed following the guidelines of Washington State Pesticide Commission on Registration with the purpose of acquiring registration on the minor crops (less than 300,000 acres) in Idaho. The intent of the Commission was to do some studies to help with the registration. Unfortunately, the Commission was dependent on inadequate private funding. In 2008, Roger Batt formed the Idaho Seed and Pesticide Council and they have gotten the registrations for some of the minor seed crops.

MOTION: **Senator Patrick** moved to print **RS 24156**. Seconded by **Vice Chairman Bayer**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Rice passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Bayer.

Rules of the State of Idaho Board of Veterinary Medicine. **Jodie Ellis**, Executive Director, Board of Veterinary Medicine, explained the Board of Veterinary Medicine (BOVM) seeks to simplify the recording and processing of continued education (CE) credits. The BOVM requires by statute that each veterinarian and certified technician complete a certain amount of continued education hours every two years, but they are required to renew their licenses and certificates every year. The veterinarians and technicians submit their documentation for their licenses, and the BOVM enters the information into the database and keeps the paperwork on file for two years. During the relicensing period (May and June), the staff of 2.6 people spends approximately 175 hours of their time sorting out the CE documentation.

The rule change will reflect that the paper documentation of CE hours does not have to accompany the licensing paperwork. Instead, the license renewal form will have a signed affidavit for those education hours. The licensee would retain the supporting documents for these education hours; BOVM will conduct a random audit once a year. In the last 10 years, none of their licensee certificants have falsified a CE document. This change in the rule will allow BOVM to reallocate almost 175 hours of staff time for better use in providing services to the public and licensees during this short licensing period. Then the management of CE hours can be stretched out over a less demanding period without any loss of fidelity.

Senator Burgoyne asked are the veterinarians and the technicians going to be required to save paper or can they save the an electronic record? **Ms. Ellis** responded that they had not addressed the saving of CE records electronically, but their would be no issue with the licensees saving their documentation in that form.

Senator Patrick questioned the meeting vote at the rule negotiation. There were three for and three against this rule change. What were the reasons for the three that were against this rule change?. **Ms. Ellis** replied that two of the three opposed the change because it was more convenient for their licensing process to send their CE hours attached to their license renewal. The third person was afraid that this new procedure would invite fraud into the licensing system.

Senator Lee asked why the CE hour documents are not sent to the BOVM electronically. **Ms. Ellis** answered many of the rural veterinarians do not use electronic media.

Senator Den Hartog questioned what might be the field time and hours for the random audits of the CE hours? **Ms. Ellis** answered that the BOVM would only be doing paper audits; they expect to audit approximately 20 percent of the licensees per year. **Senator Den Hartog** asked if the BOVM would be able to reduce staff? **Ms. Ellis** said that they would not reduce the staff, but would shift staff time to other projects and to job duties that have been neglected.

Senator Souza asked where the time savings from the CE processing reduction would be assigned. **Ms. Ellis** said the first priority for staff would be to update their records system, publish a neglected newsletter and tune up legislation, along with numerous other projects have fallen by the wayside due to hours spent on CE record keeping.

MOTION:

Senator Ward-Engelking moved to approve **Docket No. 46-0101-1501**. Seconded by **Senator Patrick**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**PASSED THE
GAVEL:**

Vice Chairman Bayer passed the gavel back to Chairman Rice.

MINUTES:

Approve minutes of January 19, 2016.

MOTION: **Senator Patrick** moved to approve the minutes of January 29, 2016. Seconded by **Senator Burgoyne**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, **Chairman Rice** adjourned the meeting at 8:40 a.m.

Senator Rice
Chair

Carol Deis
Secretary

AGENDA
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M.
Room WW53
Thursday, January 28, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
Docket No.		
02-0625-1501	Rules Governing the Planting of Beans, Other Than <i>Phaseolus Species</i> , In Idaho	Jared Stuart, Ag Section Manager
02-0641-1501	Rules Pertaining to Soil and Plant Amendments	Jared Stuart, Ag Section Manager
08-0501-1501	Rules Governing Seed and Plant Certification	Kent Nelson, General Council for the University of Idaho
42-0101-1501	Rules of the Idaho Wheat Commission	Blaine Jacobson, Executive Director
Presentation:	Idaho Wheat Commission	Blaine Jacobson, Executive Director

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Rice
Vice Chairman Bayer
Sen Patrick
Sen Souza
Sen Lee

Sen Den Hartog
Sen Harris
Sen Ward-Engelking
Sen Burgoyne

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

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MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 28, 2016

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rice, Vice Chairman Bayer, Senators Patrick, Souza, Lee, Den Hartog, Harris, Ward-Engelking and Burgoyne

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Rice** called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Rice passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Bayer.

DOCKET NO. 02-0625-1501 **Rules Governing the Planting of Beans, Other than *Phaseolus Species*, in Idaho.** **Jared Stuart**, Agriculture Section Manager, Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), stated this rule change came from the industry to amend the current rule to include a trial ground exemption. These changes will allow researchers to bring in small lots of seed without testing; the seeds would be inspected at a high rate in lieu of testing. These inspections would be conducted during the growing season when disease would manifest itself in the plants.

Senator Burgoyne asked where would these trial seeds be grown? Are they grown at seed facilities in controlled conditions or grown on leased, rented or otherwise acquired fields that are held by farmers? **Mr. Stuart** explained the trial seed lots can be grown in greenhouse conditions; in small plot conditions; or in other settings. There are rigorous inspections during the growing season until harvest. **Senator Burgoyne** asked how long is the growing season? **Mr. Stuart** responded that the growing season would commence in May and harvest would be between August and October depending on the crop.

Chairman Rice asked would the bean diseases reside in the seed and plant but not in the soil or are there some diseases that the seed would carry that would remain in the soil from one year to the next? **Mr. Stuart** explained that the diseases are seed borne and they are not diseases that would remain in the soil.

Senator Patrick asked for clarification of tests for soil-borne diseases, specifically ISDA's testing method for disease in the soil. **Mr. Stuart** explained that any seed that is imported from outside of the Idaho must be free of any soil. If there is soil in the seed, the seed lot would be rejected and not planted. **Senator Burgoyne** asked if there was an ability to treat the seed to eliminate disease that it might carry. **Mr. Stuart** explained there are treatments available for certain diseases but they are unable to treat virus diseases. **Chairman Rice** asked if when ISDA tests seeds under the new rule system, will these tests reveal diseases that would be carried in the soil or only disease that would be found in the seed. **Mr. Stuart** responded that the tests are specific to the regulated pests and diseases specified in the rule. Any of the diseases listed in the rule are not presently found in the soil.

MOTION: **Senator Harris** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0625-1501**. Seconded by **Senator Lee**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**DOCKET NO.
02-0641-1501**

Rules Pertaining to Soil and Plant Amendments. **Jared Stuart**, Agriculture Section Manager, ISDA, said this rule pertains to the Idaho Soil and Plant Amendment Act of 2001. The changes in this rule update the publication that is incorporated by reference from the American Association of Plant Food Control Officials. Included are updated terms and definitions, to be consistent with industry standards.

MOTION:

Senator Lee moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0641-1501**. Seconded by **Senator Ward-Engelking**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**DOCKET NO.
08-0501-1501**

Rules Governing Idaho Seed and Plant Certification (ISPC). **Kent Nelson**, General Council for the University of Idaho (UI), stated that the Board of Regents took action to address compliance within statutory requirements related to seed certification. In 2014, the Board of Regents incorporated into its rules, by reference, the existing published standards for Certification of the Idaho Crop Improvement Association (ICIA). These existing published standards were created through the ICIA's established process involving the ICIA Board working in conjunction with committees for the various seed crops. The ICIA Board is composed of individuals representing the seed growers and processors; who then work to create and continuously update the standards. This process has brought the standards into compliance with the rulemaking process quickly, while minimizing disruption in the seed industry. The ICIA Board identified the standards that required promulgation in the Idaho Administrative Procedure Act (IAPA) while identifying processes and procedures that would not be included in the rule.

Chairman Rice asked if the ICIA Board had worked in conjunction with ISDA to develop the standards during the process of developing the IAPA rules? **Mr. Nelson** replied that they had worked closely with ISDA in the development of the IAPA rules. **Chairman Rice** asked for a description of the process of the development of these rules and what will be their approach for future changes in these rules? **Douglas Boze**, Executive Vice President of the ICIA, explained that the process that ISPC has been following for over 50 years begins at the advisory committee level, where issues with a particular crop are discussed. Scientific background is sought from UI to address either new exotic diseases or wheat contaminants that are an issue with a particular crop. Then a change is proposed to the ICIA Board of Directors. The ICIA Board enters the recommendation from the advisory committee, then they move the request for the proposed change onto the UI Foundation Seed Stock Committee. These scientists evaluate the proposed rule change, and if they approve the recommended change, it is recommended for approval by the UI Director of the Agriculture Experiment Station and then through the ISPC process.

Senator Souza asked are there any substantive changes in this rule other than procedural? **Mr. Boze** responded that they changed the process in which they segregated the actual standards from policies and procedures. There was one rule change proposal that came from the seed potato group: a disease of concern called zebra chip affecting (table stock, not necessarily seed). All the remaining crops and potato rules remain the same.

Senator Burgoyne asked if the general seed certification standards are simply being retitled and given a new date or are there changes in the publication? **Mr. Boze** responded that there is a change in the document. The document only contains the certification standards. There are no changes to the standards themselves; the process has just been moved to a different location.

MOTION:

Senator Den Hartog moved to approve **Docket No. 08-0501-1501**. Seconded by **Senator Burgoyne**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**DOCKET NO.
42-0101-1501**

Rules of the Idaho Wheat Commission. **Blaine Jacobson**, Executive Director, Idaho Wheat Commission (IWC), stated that two years ago they were informed by the Attorney General's office that the language in the IWC's rule was outdated. The new rule changes are primarily replacing outdated language. There is one substantive change in the grower lists section (400)(3); it requires elevator operators to submit a report annually to the IWC that lists the growers who delivered wheat to their elevators.

Senator Lee asked for clarification on section (300), which notes that growers pay per bushel. **Mr. Jacobson** explained this is one of the examples of the clean-up. Four years ago the assessment was increased to 3.5 cents; they made those changes in the legislation and then forgot to put it into the rule. **Senator Lee** asked for clarification on where the IWC receives the authority to change the assessment between 2 and 5 cents. **Mr. Jacobson** stated that assessment flexibility is in the legislation and he did not have a copy. **Chairman Rice** replied the legislation number is Idaho Code § 22-3315, which allows impacts not to exceed 5 cents per bushel.

Senator Harris requested information on section 400(03), elevator operator reports. Does the IWC have any concerns that some growers may refuse to supply their names to the elevator operator? **Mr. Jacobson** answered that growers are required to provide their name and address to the elevator operators. If there is an issue of confidentiality, the Attorney General's office indicated that all of the records of wheat tax payments would be considered a trade secret and would be kept confidential. This list will help the IWC do its job more efficiently.

Senator Den Hartog asked if the IWC did not have an accurate list of all the growers prior to the rule change, how did they know that the collection of the wheat tax was accurate? **Mr. Jacobson** responded that the growers are required to provide their name and address to the elevator operators. ISDA performs inspections on behalf of the IWC, along with an audit on the settlement sheets. ISDA is comfortable that the wheat tax has been collected and remitted.

MOTION:

Senator Harris moved to approve **Docket No. 42-0101-1501**. Seconded by **Senator Lee**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**PASSED THE
GAVEL:**

Vice Chairman Bayer passed the gavel to Chairman Rice.

PRESENTATION:

Idaho Wheat Commission. **Blaine Jacobson**, IWC, advised that the IWC is governed by a board of five commissioners who represent five geographical areas of the State. Idaho is considered one of the premier wheat-growing states both by the international and national customers that purchase wheat. Idaho is the largest grower of organic wheat in the United States. Last year the crop was 88 mm a bushel, split equally between export and domestic. Cash receipts were \$506 million, down 17 percent from 2014 (see attachment 1).

Some of the unique uses of Idaho wheat in the overseas market are sponge cake, steam bread, flat bread and noodles. The top ten customers for U.S. wheat shipped out of Portland, are Japan, Nigeria, Mexico, Phillippines, Korea, Egypt, China, Brazil, Taiwan and European Union. The IWC budget is \$2.379 million, and half of this budget is committed to research at the University of Idaho. The return on the investment for wheat is strong, with an average for commodity in the check-off programs of \$23. Today, 82 percent of the U.S. total exports go to Latin America, east and southeast Asia and parts of Africa.

There are upcoming market headwinds: 1) For the last three years, world production of wheat has experienced good weather and now the inventories are very high; 2) cheap ocean freight is available; 3) a strong U.S. dollar; and 4) non-scientific claims about negative impacts of eating wheat. **Mr. Jacobson** also mentioned that after damaging storms in 2014, IWC has taken a leadership role in addressing the insurance program gap.

River system transport is very important to wheat growers. IWC has advised their growers to be aware that there will be some investment in the river system to Portland. Portland is the number one port in the U.S. for wheat exports, and the IWC continues to be involved addressing environmental concerns there.

Mr. Jacobson argued that the dams on the Snake River/Columbia River do not block access for fish; 97 percent of the juvenile fish on the Snake River have safe passage. He said sockeye, fall chinook and coho had record runs this year. In terms of energy production, the output from the Snake River dams provides enough clean, renewable, carbon-free energy to power 1.87 million homes. Ten percent of the wheat in the U.S. travels through the Snake River and 17 percent goes through Portland. There is a growing emphasis on collaboration to help the salmon population on the Snake/Columbia River System rather than litigation. He stated Washington, Montana and Idaho are unified in their approach, along with seven tribal partners and navigation, utility and irrigation stakeholders, for the reestablishment of the fish population. The National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration has indicated fish survival rates through the hydro system are now approaching levels seen in rivers without dams. Today, there are more fish in the Columbia River than at any time since the first dam was built at Bonneville in 1938.

New legislation will combine the directorship and staff of the IWC and Idaho Barley Commission. There is a tremendous amount of overlap between wheat and barley cropping; it makes sense to combine the two commissions under one director, allowing the growers to make the best use of their money.

Senator Souza referred to a statement in the 2016 IWC Report that indicates that gluten-free products have topped out and that fad is on the decline. What source of information did IWC use to determine the gluten-free decline? **Mr. Jacobson** explained that the IWC funds and is a member of the Wheat Foods Council (WFC). The WFC tracks wheat product introductions by food companies. WFC has discovered that sales for gluten-free products have leveled out, and he believes that they will start going down. **Mr. Jacobson** said that there are studies that show that only about 2 percent of the U.S. population are allergic to gluten and another 10 or 15 percent are sensitive to gluten.

Senator Souza questioned the development process for the new hard white wheat that Idaho expects to release. **Mr. Jacobson** responded that developing a new variety and having it ready for market is quite time consuming. On average the process takes eight to ten years.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, **Chairman Rice** adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Senator Rice
Chair

Carol Deis
Secretary

Idaho Wheat Commission

Report to Legislature

January 28, 2016

About the Wheat Commission

FY'16 Budget Overview

2016 Supply Picture

Issues

Rules and Legislation Updates

About the Idaho Wheat Commission



- Self-governing state agency created in 1959
- Funded by a .035-cent assessment
- Board of five wheat producers

IWC Mission and Vision

Mission

Maximize profitability for Idaho's wheat producers by investing funds in market development, research and information & education

Vision

Working together to keep Idaho a premier wheat-growing state and to make Idaho wheat the preferred choice of domestic and export customers

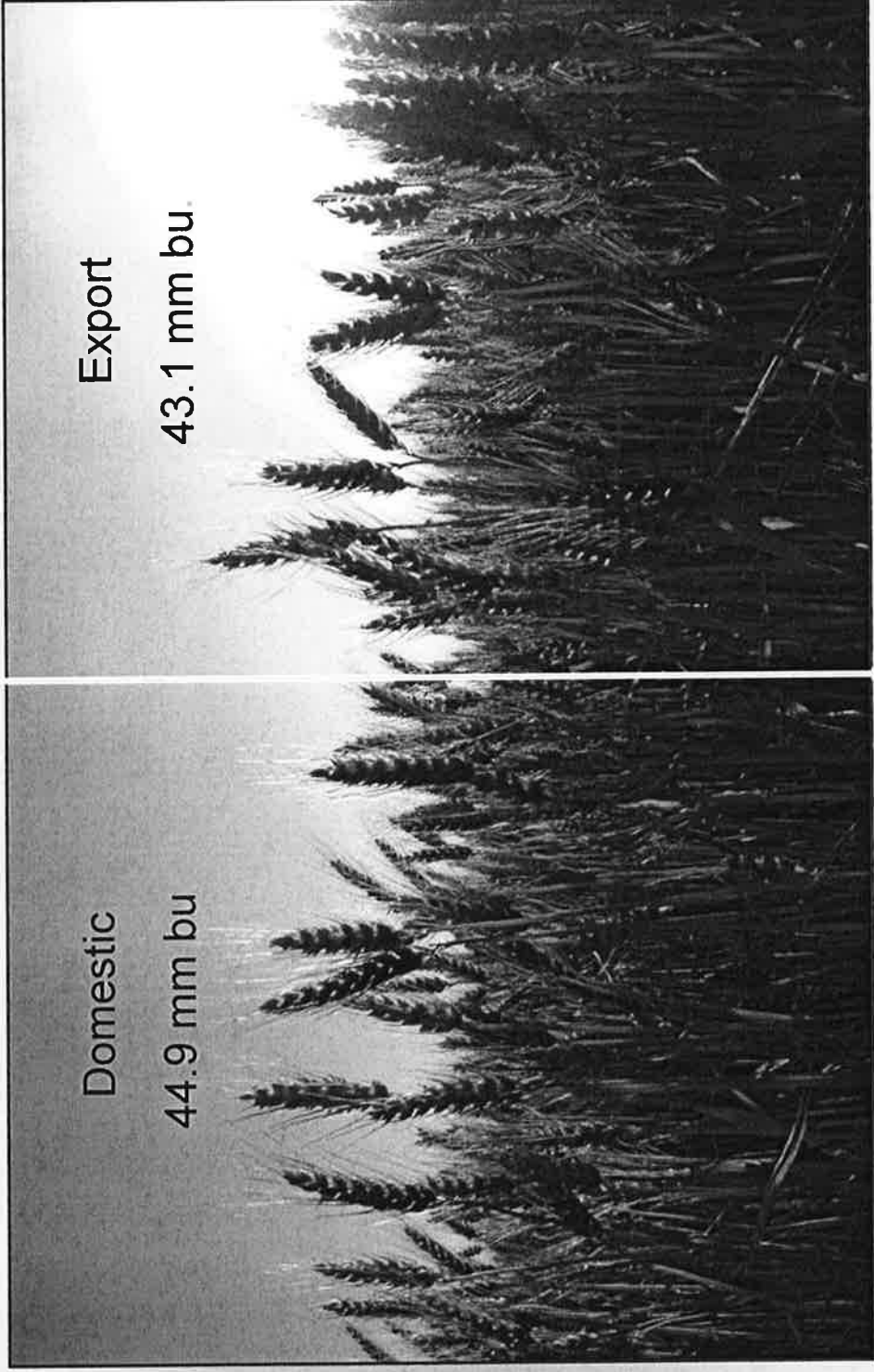
Idaho Wheat Highlights

Domestic

44.9 mm bu

Export

43.1 mm bu

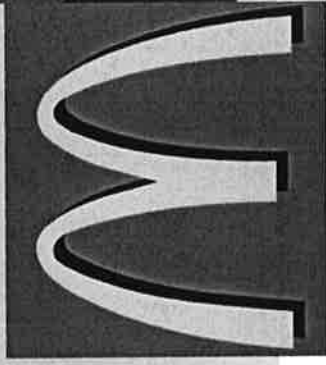


Idaho Wheat Highlights

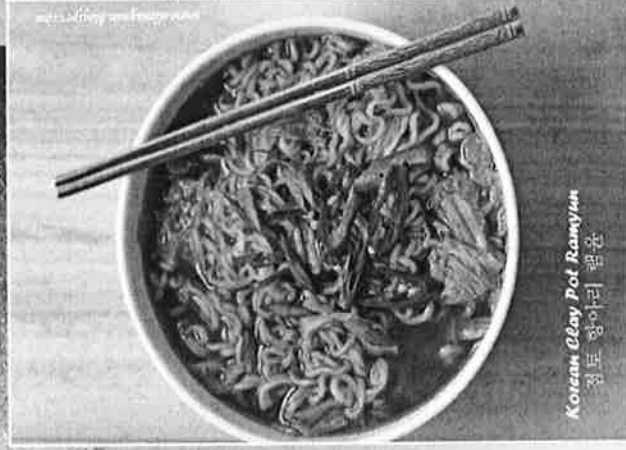
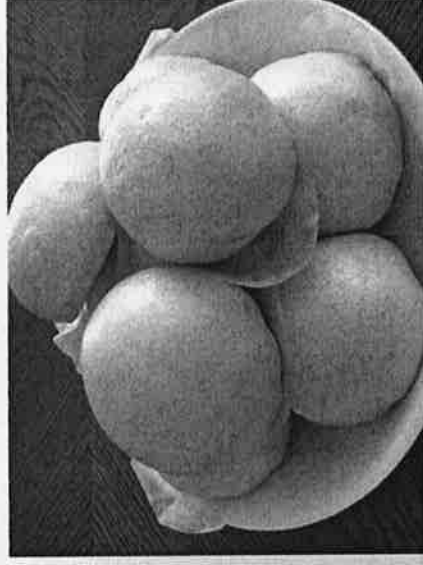


- Cash receipts for Idaho wheat were \$506 million in 2015, down 17% from 2014 due to rain-damaged crop. Acreage for 2016 is up.
- Wheat ranks as Idaho's second largest crop. Grown in 42 of Idaho's 44 counties.
- Idaho has some of the highest yields per acre of any state.
- Wheat is a steady, consistent contributor to Idaho's economic wellbeing.

Domestic Products Using Idaho Wheat



Idaho Wheat in Overseas Products



Wheat-Buying Teams Visit Idaho in 2015



Japan



Philippines



Japan

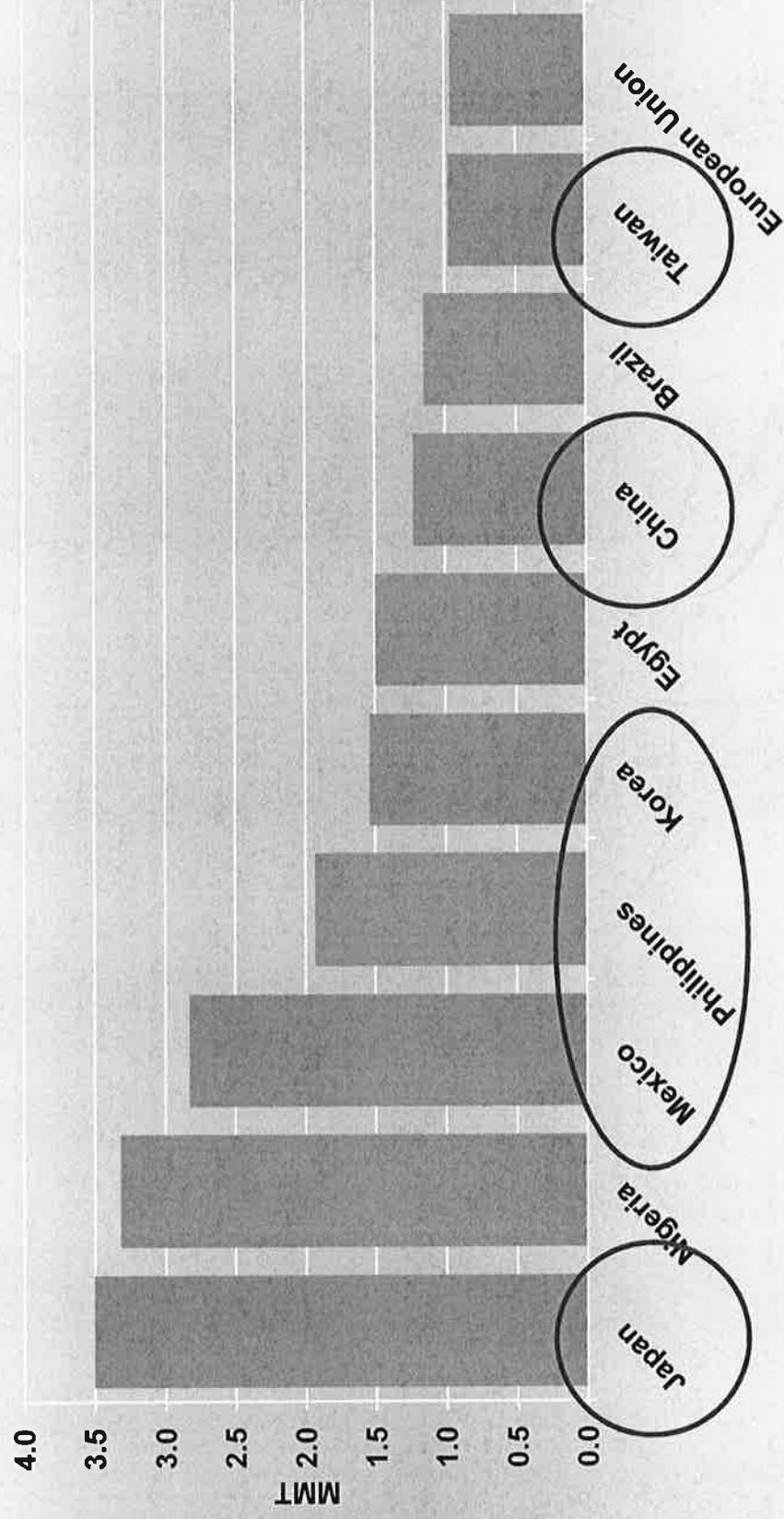


Taiwan

Top 10 Customers for U.S.

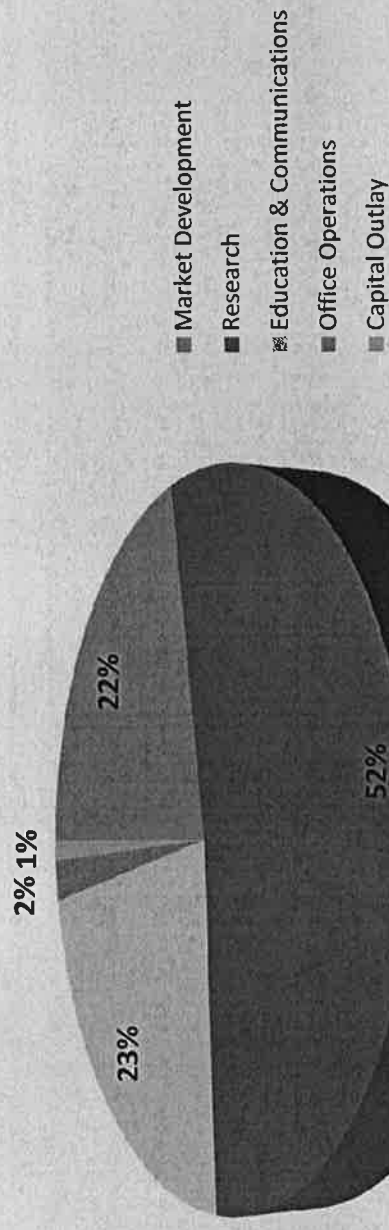
Wheat

5-year average



IWC FY 2016 Budget Allocation

IWC FY2016
Approved Budget \$3,379,443



IWC FY 2016 Budget

Ten Largest Budget Items

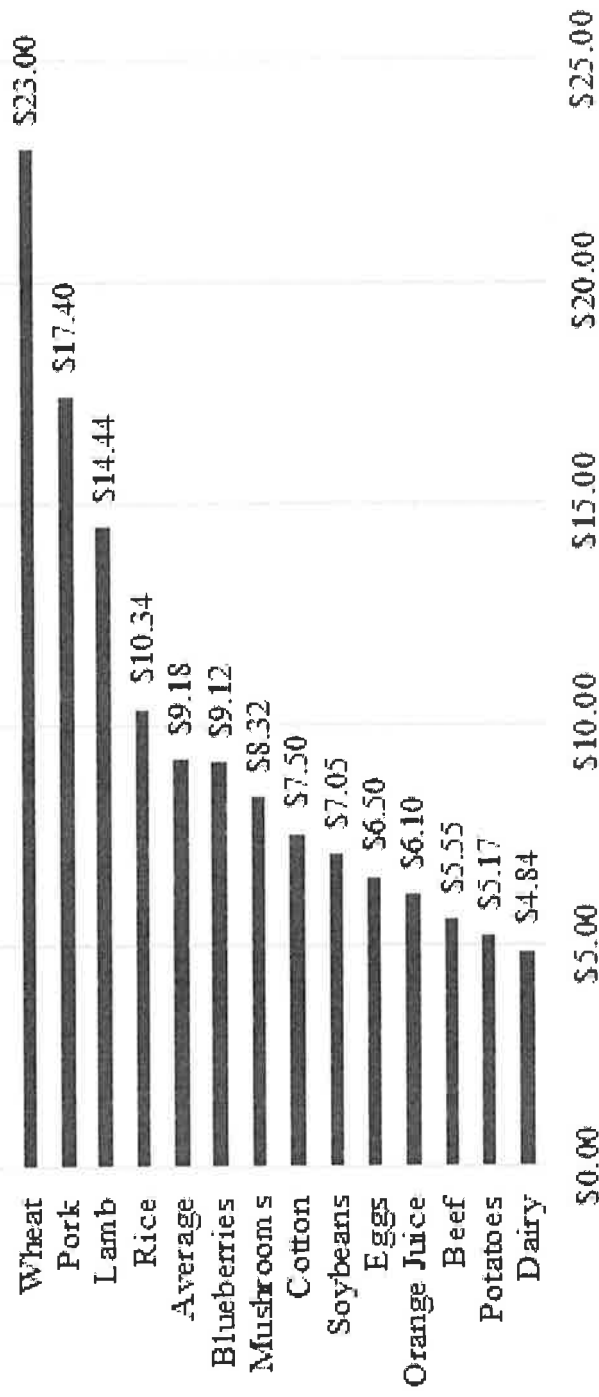
University of Idaho	\$1,336,645
• Wheat Variety Research	\$589,887
• Pest & Disease Research	\$115,194
• Production Practices Research	\$223,945
• Wheat Quality Lab	\$126,862
Idaho Grain Producers Association	\$405,500
U.S. Wheat Associates	\$320,000
IWC Salaries & Benefits	\$277,000
Equipment and Infrastructure	\$200,000
Wheat Marketing Center	\$173,206
National Association of Wheat Growers	\$ 88,000
Other Research	\$ 75,000

Return on Investment: Very Strong for Wheat



WORLD
PERSPECTIVES,
INC.

Commodity Checkoff Programs Return on Investment (1) Per Dollar Invested



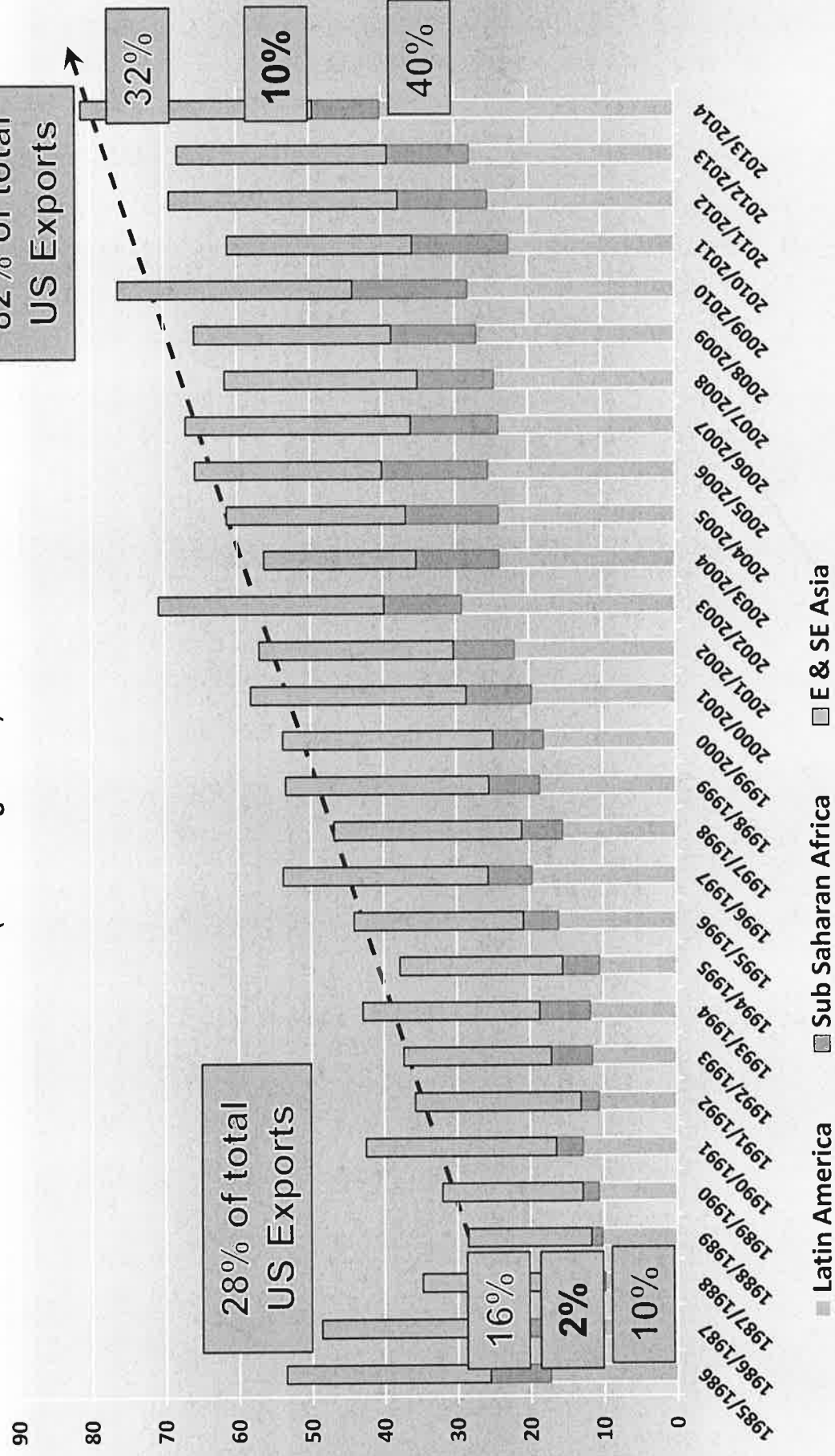
Examples of 2016 Spending

Market Development

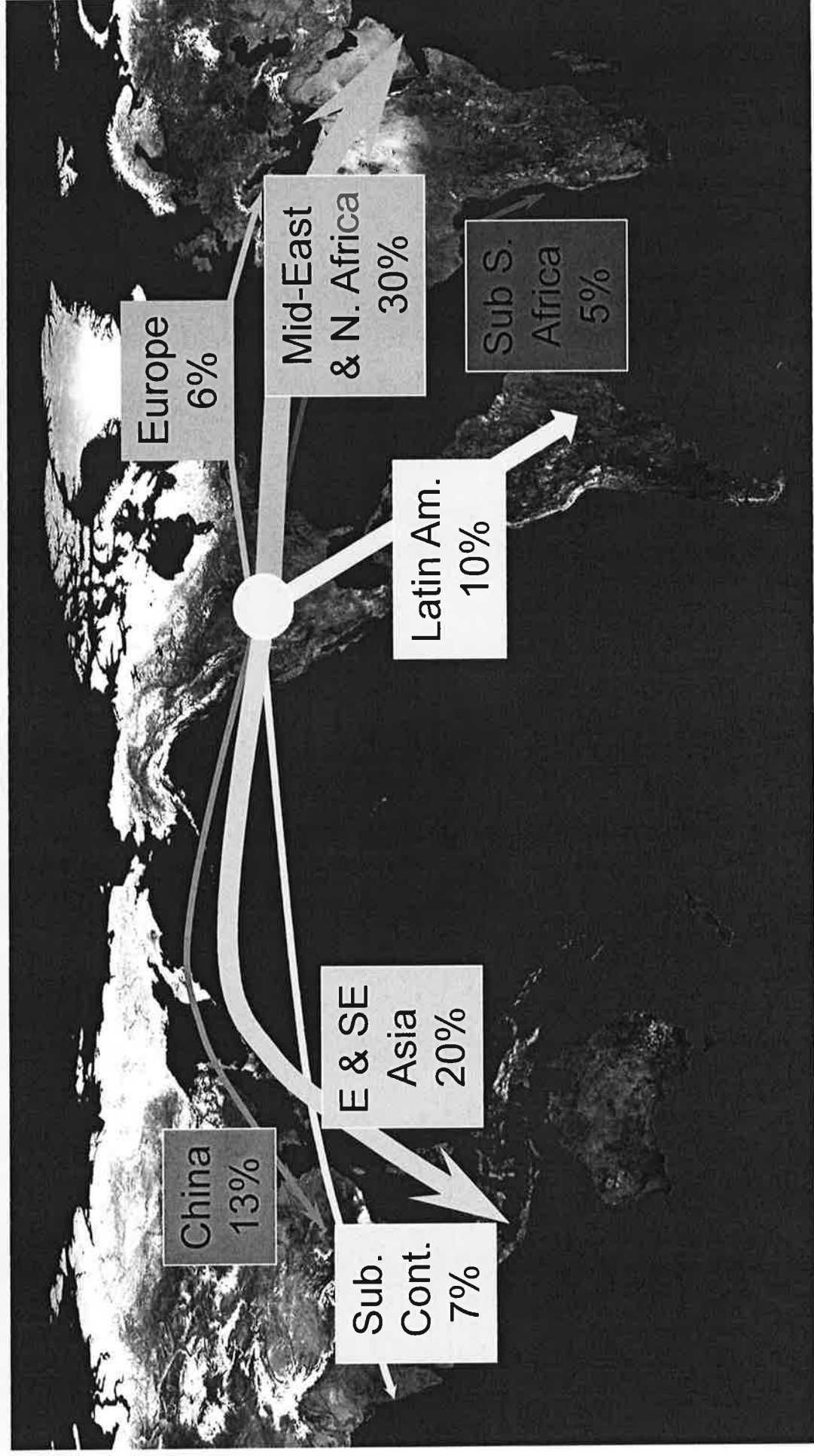
- U.S. Wheat Associates (half of Idaho wheat is exported)
- Selling more Soft White to Latin America for blending
- Wheat Marketing Center (recent successes – TCK, low-protein HW)
- Rails, Rivers and Roads (low-cost transportation critical)
- Hard White (increasingly preferred by mills)

US Wheat Export Trade Increases – 1985 to 2014

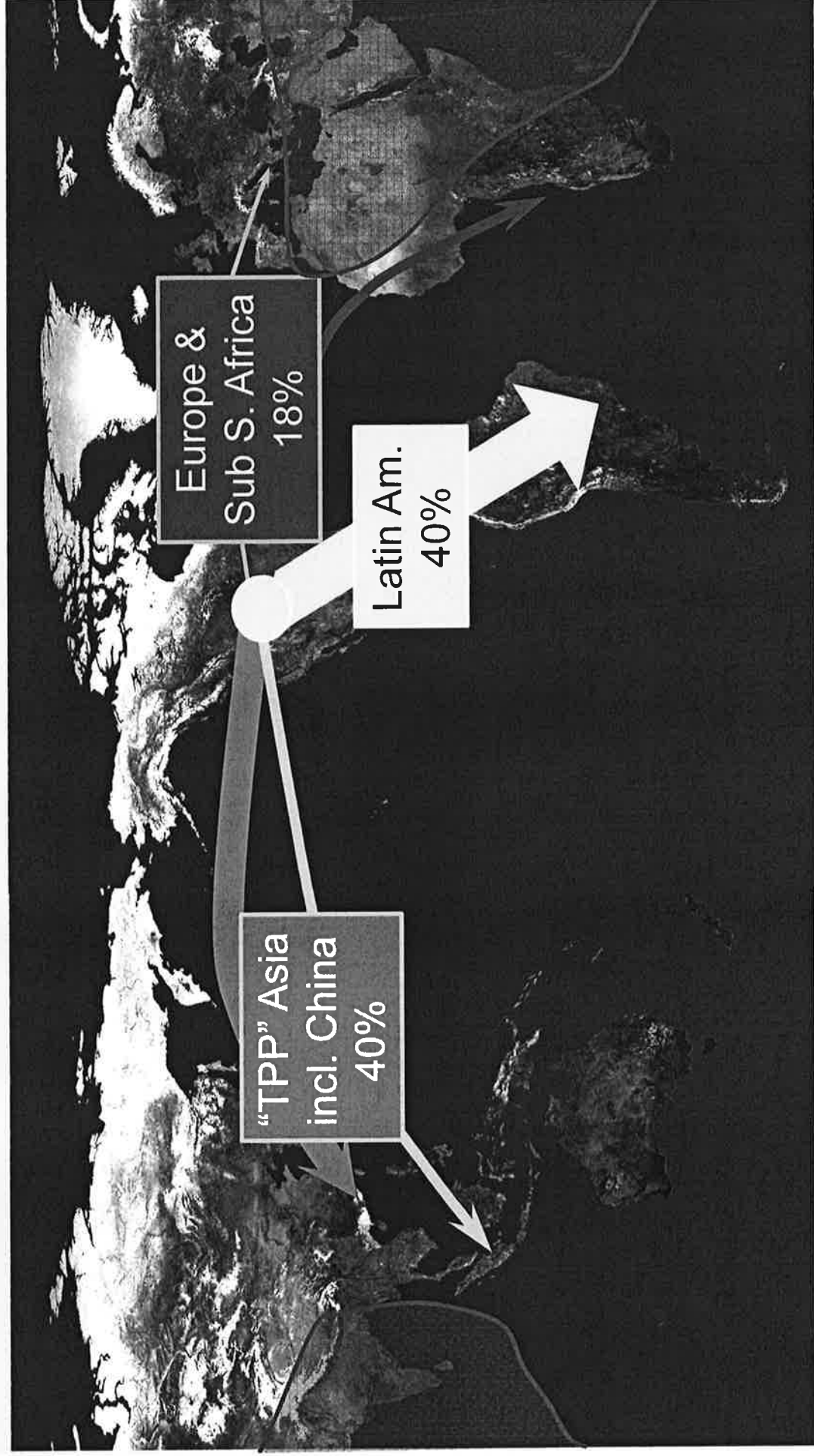
Latin America, E & SE Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa (excluding China)



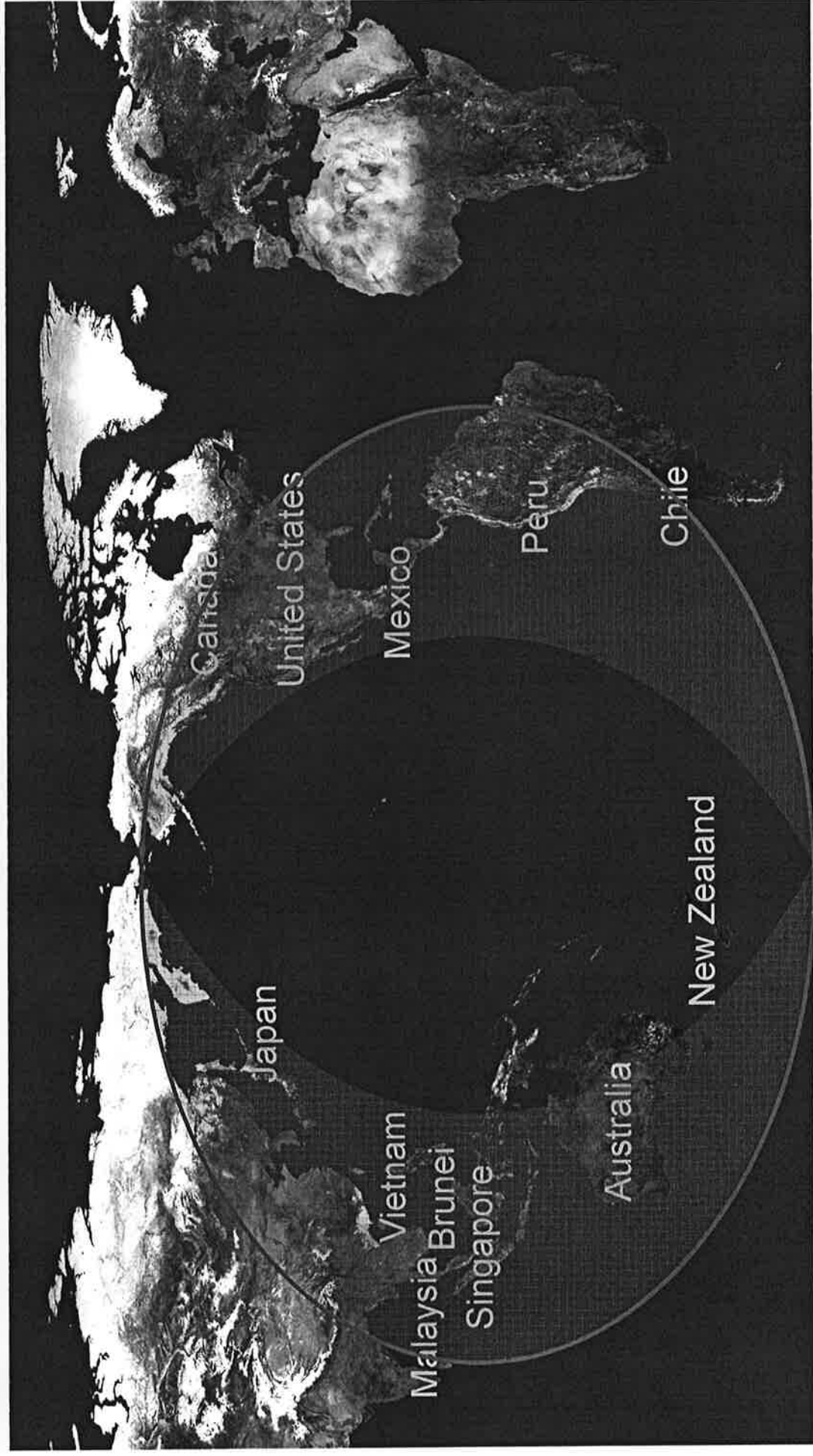
Distribution of (91%) US Wheat Exports in 1985-90



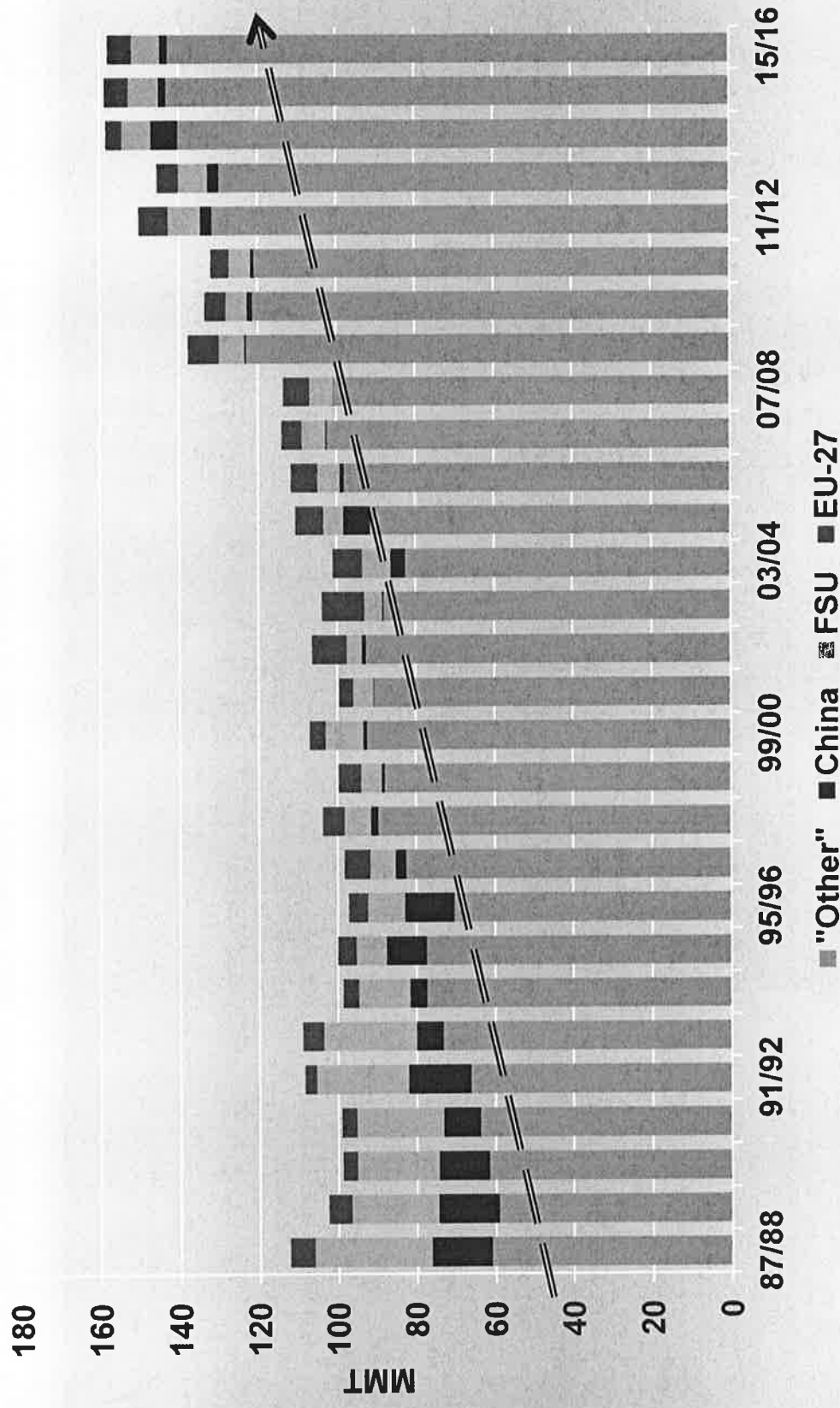
Distribution of (98%) US Wheat Exports in 2013/14



TPP: Trans-Pacific Partnership Countries

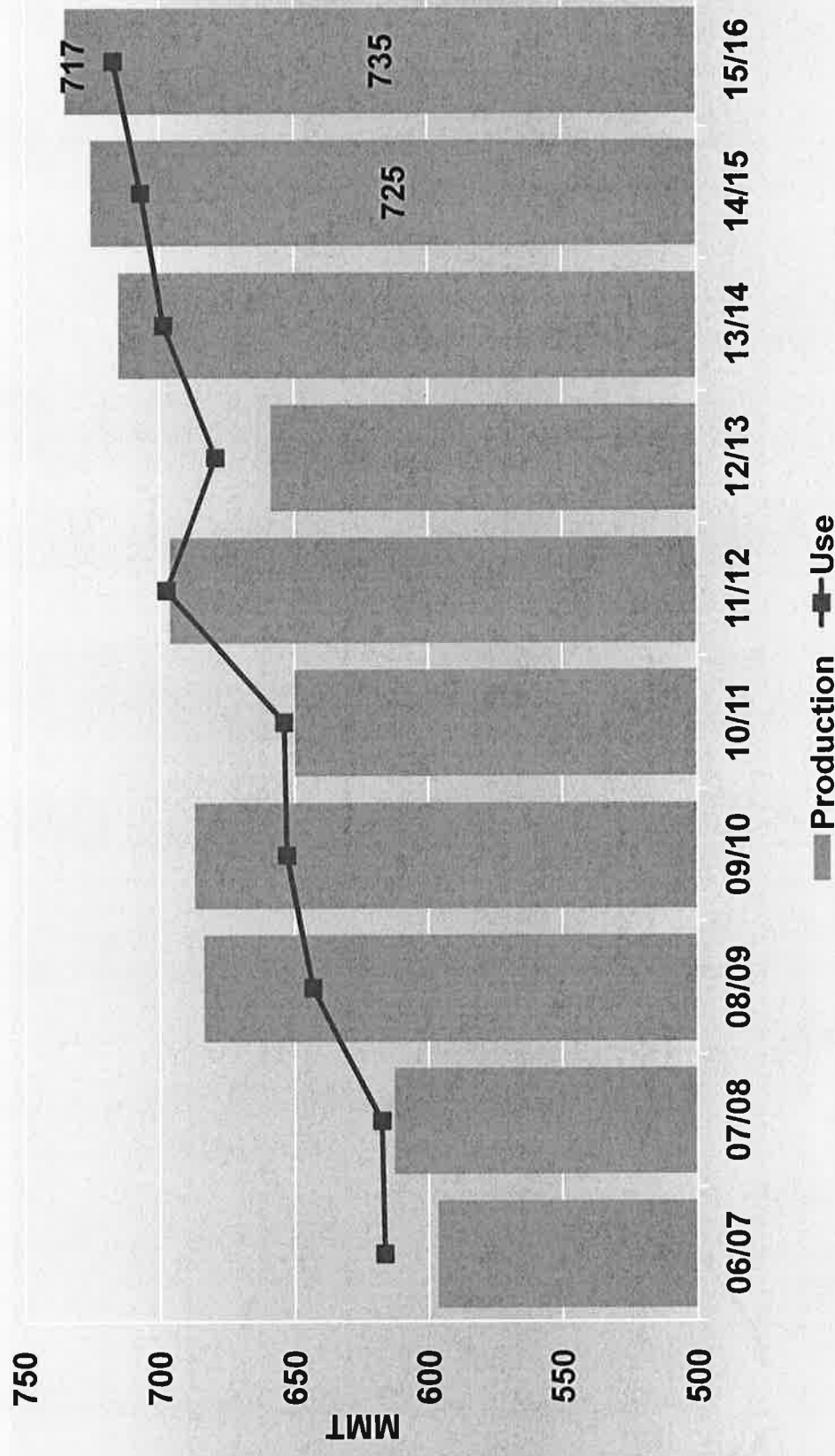


World Wheat Imports



Trend in "other" importers denoted (==>)

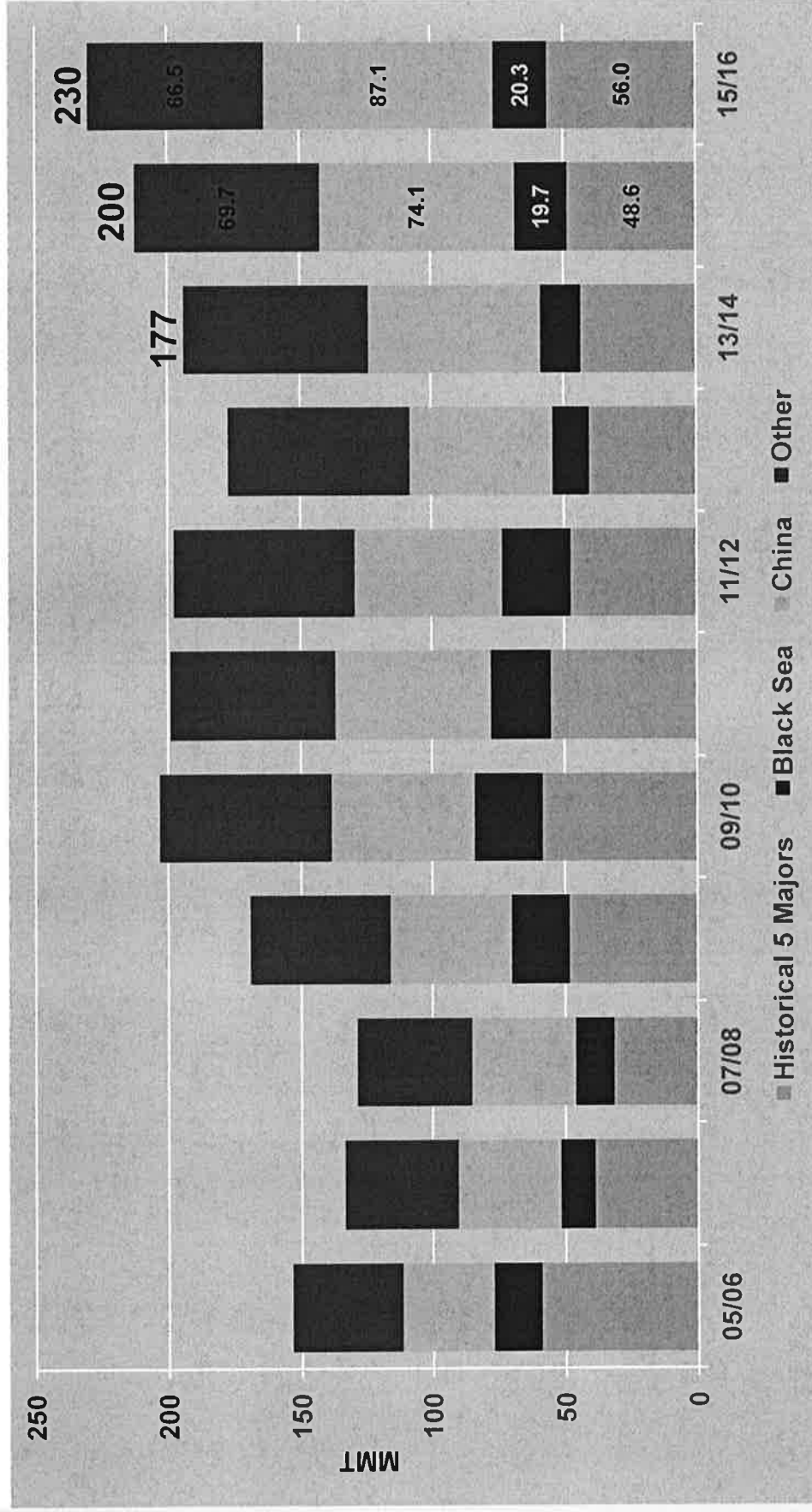
World Production and Use



Market Headwinds

- 
- 1) *Plentiful Global Supplies*
 - 2) *Cheap Ocean Freight*
 - 3) *Strong U.S. Dollar*

World Ending Stocks

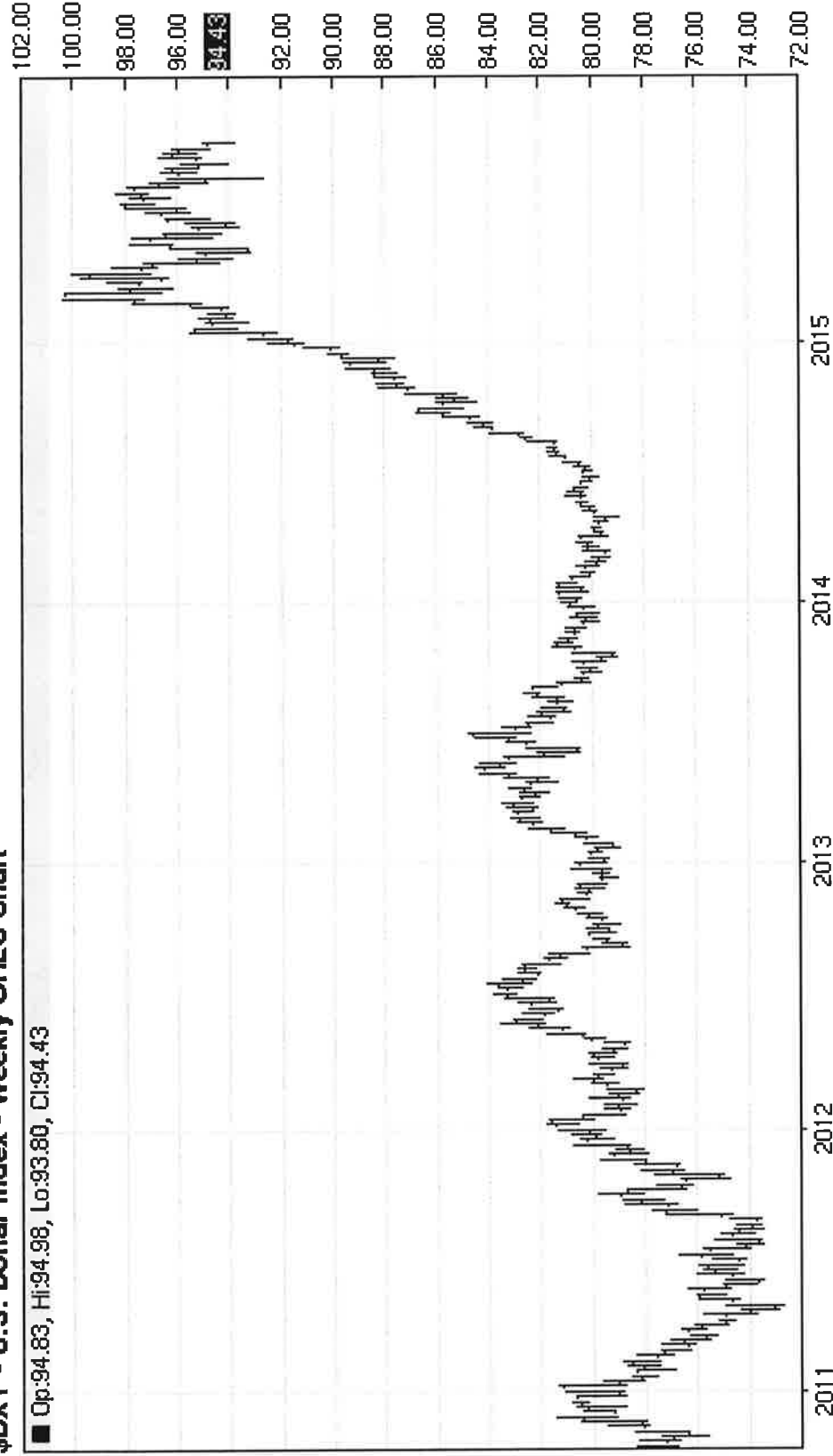


Historical Five Major Exporters include U.S., Canada, Australia, Argentina and EU-27.
Black Sea includes Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan.

Strength of U.S. Dollar

\$DXY - U.S. Dollar Index - Weekly OHLC Chart

■ Op:94.83, Hi:94.98, Lo:93.80, Cl:94.43



Examples of 2016 Spending

Research

- Maintain programs in Moscow and Aberdeen
- Adding wheat geneticist in Moscow
- UI Quality Lab, other UI funding
- Pest & Disease Research (Hessian Fly resistance, weed control systems, etc.)
- Capital items to support researchers

Examples of 2016 Spending



Grower Education & Communications

- Primary funding for IGPA
- NAWG – looks out for interests of Idaho wheat growers at federal level
- PNW Export Tour
- Leadership role in addressing insurance program gaps in 2014 crop
- Other Education (Cereal Schools, Direct Seed Workshop, Wheat Quality Workshops, idahowheat.org website)

Non-Scientific Claims About Eating Wheat

Wheat causes
all types of
health problems

Grains are not
needed for
good nutrition

Humans have
not evolved to
eat grains

Wheat is GMO

Modern wheat
is toxic

Recent Assaults on Wheat in Your Diet

Paleolithic
Diet

"Grain Brain"

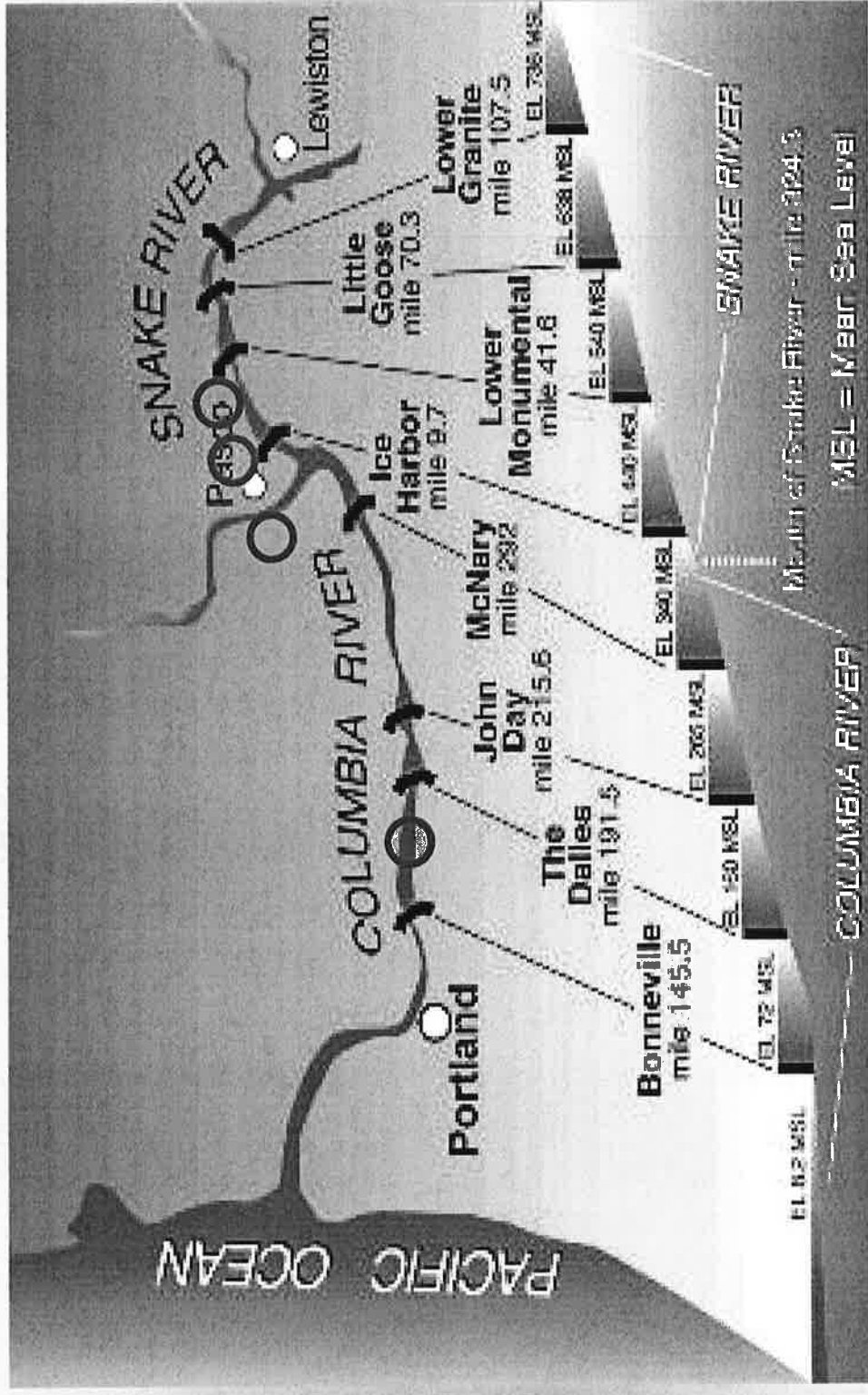
Scarsdale
Diet

Wheat Belly
Book

The Zone

Columbia/Snake River Closure

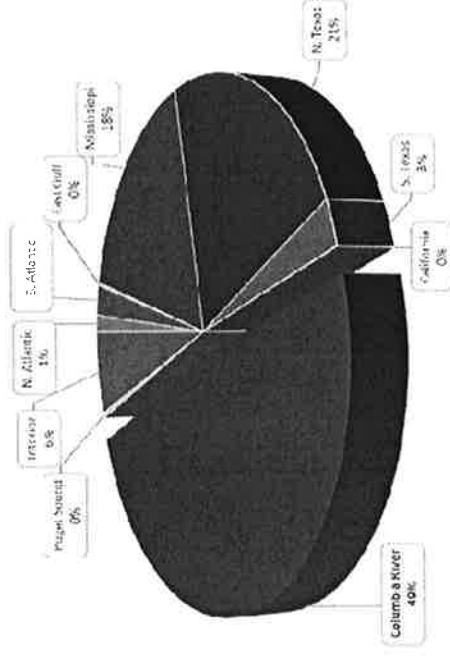
Mid-December 2016 to Mid-March 2017





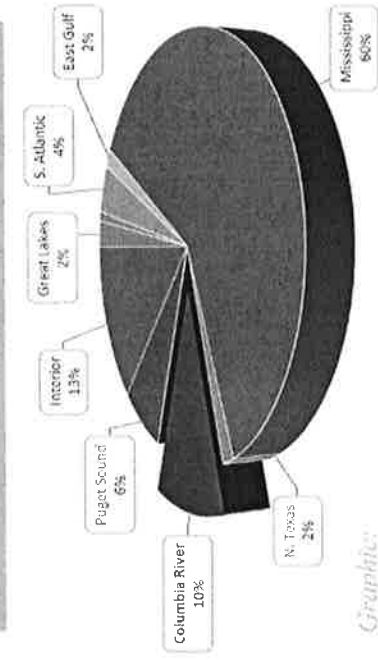
WHEAT

#1 in U.S. exports



SOYBEANS

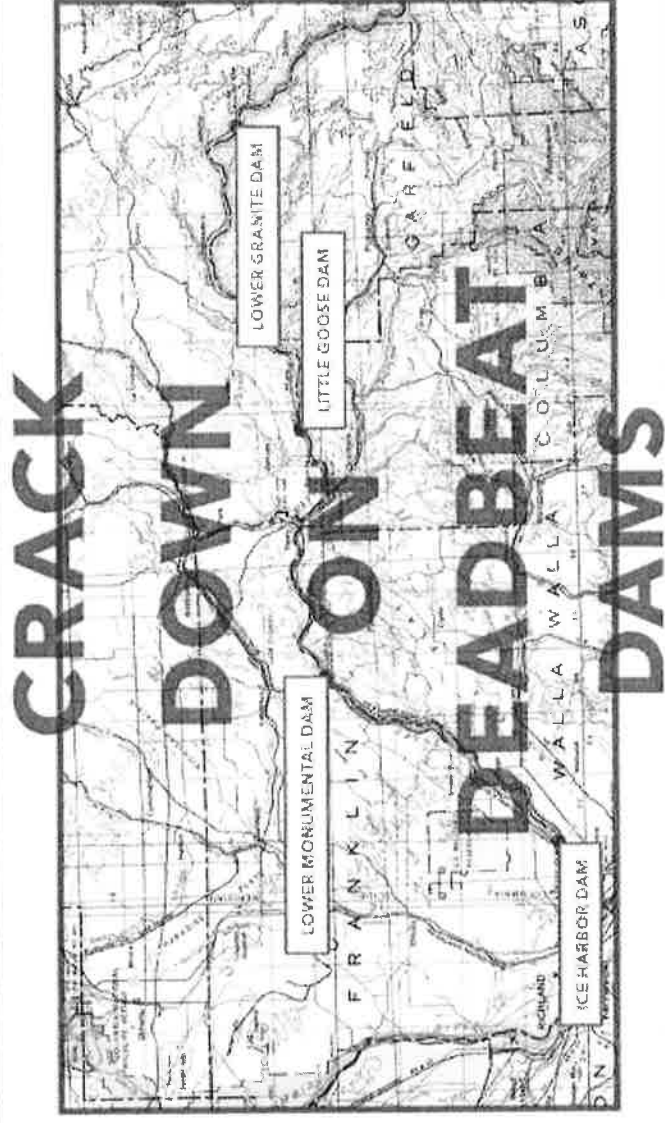
#2 in U.S. exports



*Graphic:
Port of Portland*

Snake River dams ... The Claims

- Patagonia and others targeting Snake River dams
- Ads and “documentary” lump Snake River projects with dams which had no fish passage, no navigation, and almost no hydropower production
- Continue to cite flawed study to support their case



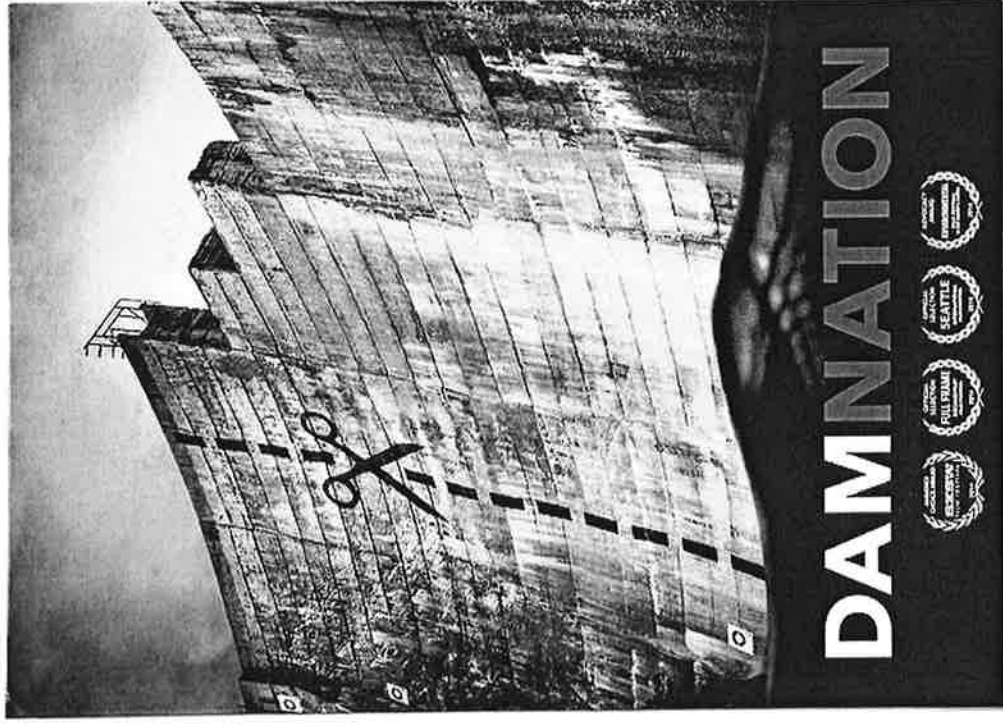
- ☐ **Elwha Dam**
- ☐ **Glines Canyon Dam**
- ☐ **Condit Dam**
- ☐ **Lower Monumental Dam**
- ☐ **Lower Granite Dam**
- ☐ **Ice Harbor Dam**
- ☐ **Little Goose Dam**

Don't Hold Back: Ask Senators Cantwell and Murray to help remove four deadbeat dams on the lower Snake River.

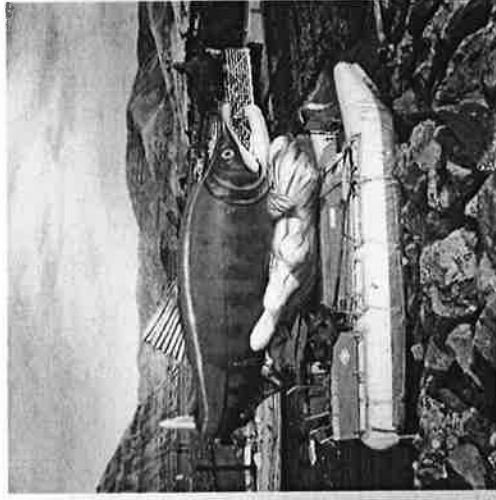
Let your senators know how you feel about the four dams that are blocking fish passage and navigation on the lower Snake River. The dams are: Elwha, Glines Canyon, Condit, and Lower Granite. They are all owned by the federal government and are in the process of being removed. The removal of these dams will allow for the restoration of the river and the return of fish to the river. The removal of these dams will also allow for the restoration of the river and the return of fish to the river. The removal of these dams will also allow for the restoration of the river and the return of fish to the river.



Snake River dams ... The Movie



Snake River dams ... The Flotilla



Snake River dams ... The Press

12/29/13

Dredging costs rise to top of meeting - The Lewiston Tribune Northwest dredging, Snake River

Dredging costs rise to top of meeting

By ERIC BARKER of the Tribune | Posted: Friday, January 25, 2013 12:00 am

Concerns about the high cost of maintaining the shipping channel of the lower Snake River dominated an information meeting on a sediment management plan hosted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Thursday in Lewiston.

Many in the audience continually keep

"Does it make sense to spend millions of dollars when barges are carrying multi-trillion dollars of goods?"

The public debate was the best way to solve the problem, said a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers spokesman. But the higher the cost, the more likely the Corps will appear intent on leaving the problem to the private sector.

But supporters of the Lewis-Clark River and its tributaries are not buying it. They say the Corps is just trying to shift the cost to the private sector.

When normal river drops out of the river, the Corps must manage sediment.

The Corps' recent study of the river and a width of 25 feet or more, said a Corps spokesman.

The plan does not include a large transportation project and will say any federal infrastructure project and will say any federal infrastructure project.

infrastructure project

12/29/13

Barging is all in the numbers - The Lewiston Tribune Northwest U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Port of Lewiston, Snake River

Barging is all in the numbers

By ERIC BARKER of the Tribune | Posted: Saturday, January 26, 2013 12:00 am

Proponents of barging say river transportation affords efficiencies that provide benefits to shippers and the general public, but they are sometimes reluctant to provide detailed data to support their claims.

Because of their capacity to carry huge volumes of commodities, barges are the most efficient way to move goods. But the Corps is just trying to shift the cost to the private sector.

"Any way you slice it, barging comes out on top," said Kristin Northwest Waterways Association in Portland, Ore. "You can't argue with the numbers."

However, the release of a draft U.S. Army Corps of Engineers study for dredging next winter has some people asking if the Corps is just trying to shift the cost to the private sector.

Linwood Laughly, a citizen activist from Kootenai who battles the Corps' plan to dredge the river, said the Corps is just trying to shift the cost to the private sector.

Meira said Laughly's analysis failed to account for several factors, including the Corps' plan to dredge the river, which would cost \$18 million. The Corps' plan to dredge the river, which would cost \$18 million.

Laughly didn't include the Port of Clarkston in his analysis. But the Lewis-Clark Terminal, which handles 42,857 tons of grain, or a little more than 10 percent of the Port's total, is in the Port of Clarkston.

Keefer also said the terminal set a record for grain shipped

infrastructure project

12/29/13

Don't take Linwood Laughly's word for it - The Lewiston Tribune Opinion editorial

Don't take Linwood Laughly's word for it

Marty Trillhaase | Posted: Thursday, January 31, 2013 12:00 am

Dredging the Ports of Lewiston and Clarkston as well as the shipping channel of the lower Snake River may not be worth the money.

So says Linwood Laughly of Kootenai. The megaload opponent worked his way through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' 20-year plan to maintain the shipping channel in Lewiston and Clarkston and reached a bridge to nowhere.

12/29/13

Analysis questions economics of barging - The Lewiston Tribune Northwest

Analysis questions economics of barging

By ERIC BARKER of the Tribune | Posted: Monday, January 21, 2013 12:00 am

A critic of the Port of Lewiston says U.S. taxpayers are shelling out \$13,000 for every barge that leaves the port and collectively subsidizing farmers who use the river transportation system about \$7 million per year.

Laughly, a Kootenai-area resident who was one of the leading opponents of megaload traffic way 12, said the cost of keeping the river's shipping channel clear of sand and other debris compared to the amount of goods transported to downstream destinations like the Port of Lewiston.

Judging river dredging plan by the numbers

Judging river dredging plan by the numbers - The Lewiston Tribune Opinion editorial

Marty Trillhaase | Posted: Thursday, January 24, 2013 12:00 am

There are an awful lot of numbers in the Army Corps of Engineers plan to dredge the ports of Lewiston and Clarkston and the shipping channel of the lower Snake and Clearwater rivers.

Those numbers are coming at you at a fast clip. Can you keep up?

\$16 million - What the Army Corps spent preparing its response to the situation filtering from the Clearwater and collecting in the slackwater created by the four dams.

Five years - How long it took to prepare the plan.

More than 1,000 pages - The length of the Army Corps' plan.

10 years - How long environmental groups, including Idaho Rivers United, have been battling the Army Corps about the dredging issue. Churning up a plume of silt from the riverbed can choke salmon, steelhead and bull trout in the river.

20 years - How long the Army Corps plans to dredge the river under this new plan.

14 feet - The depth required for barge traffic to easily navigate the river channel.

12 feet - The depth at some parts of the shipping lane.

3 feet - How much higher Lewiston's levee system might be raised as an alternative to dredging.

3,000 cubic yards - The amount of sediment the Corps will dredge from the Port of Lewiston.

10,000 cubic yards - The amount of sediment the Corps wants to dredge from the Port of Clarkston.

407,000 cubic yards - The amount of sediment the Corps expects to dredge from the shipping channel.

\$2.3 million - The amount Lewiston port critic Linwood Laughly figures dredging will cost every year.

\$3.2 million - Laughly's yearly cost estimate once the report's \$16 million price tag is authorized.

\$38 million - What Laughly says taxpayers will spend keeping the shipping lane open for the next 10 years.

\$87,177 tons - The amount of grain and other freight the Port of Lewiston shipped downstream in 2011.

\$5.40 - The amount Laughly says taxpayer-supported dredging subsidizes each ton shipped out of the Port of Lewiston downstream.

A lot of numbers and most of them are huge.

Now here are two smaller figures:

10

10

10

10

10

10

infrastructure project

1/9

Snake River dams ... The Facts

The dams do not block access for fish, as was the case with the Condit, Elwha, and Glines Canyon dams

The Snake River dams have state of the art fish passage which allows over 97% of juveniles to safely migrate past each project

The sockeye, fall chinook, and coho 2014 returns were record or near-record runs, including Snake River stocks



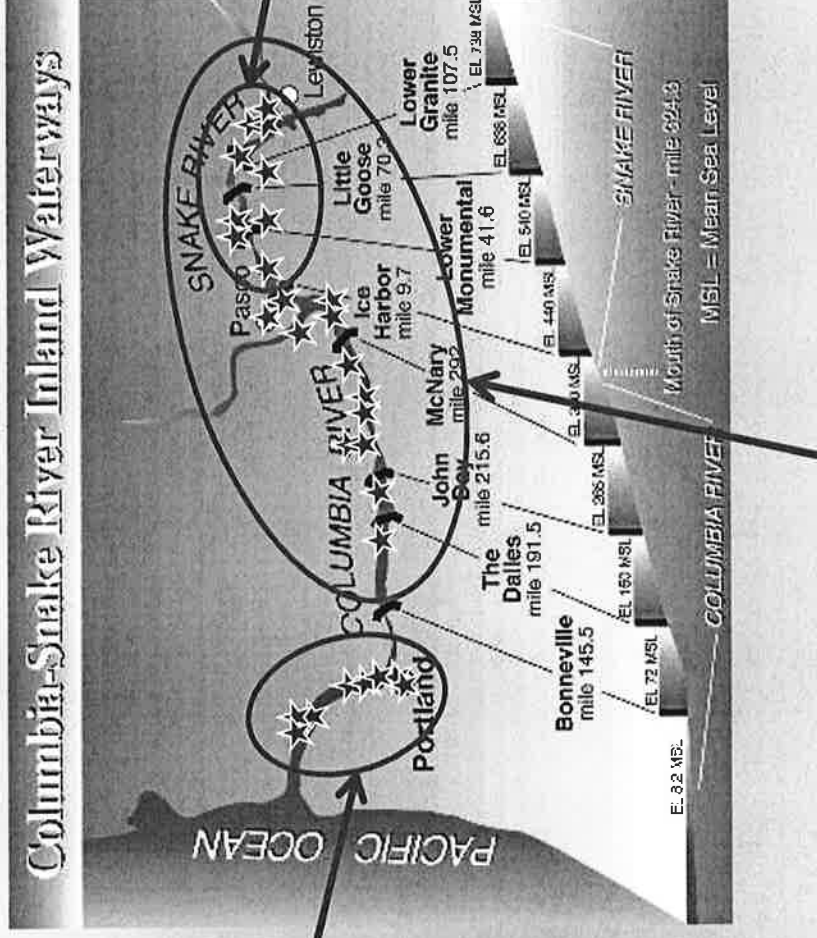
The total potential energy output of the Snake River dams provides enough clean, renewable, carbon free energy to power 1.87 million homes



www.snakeriverdams.com

Snake River dams ... and Wheat

Seven major grain export facilities



Nearly 10% of all U.S. wheat travels through the Snake River dams

Over 17% of all U.S. wheat travels by barge on the inland Columbia/Snake

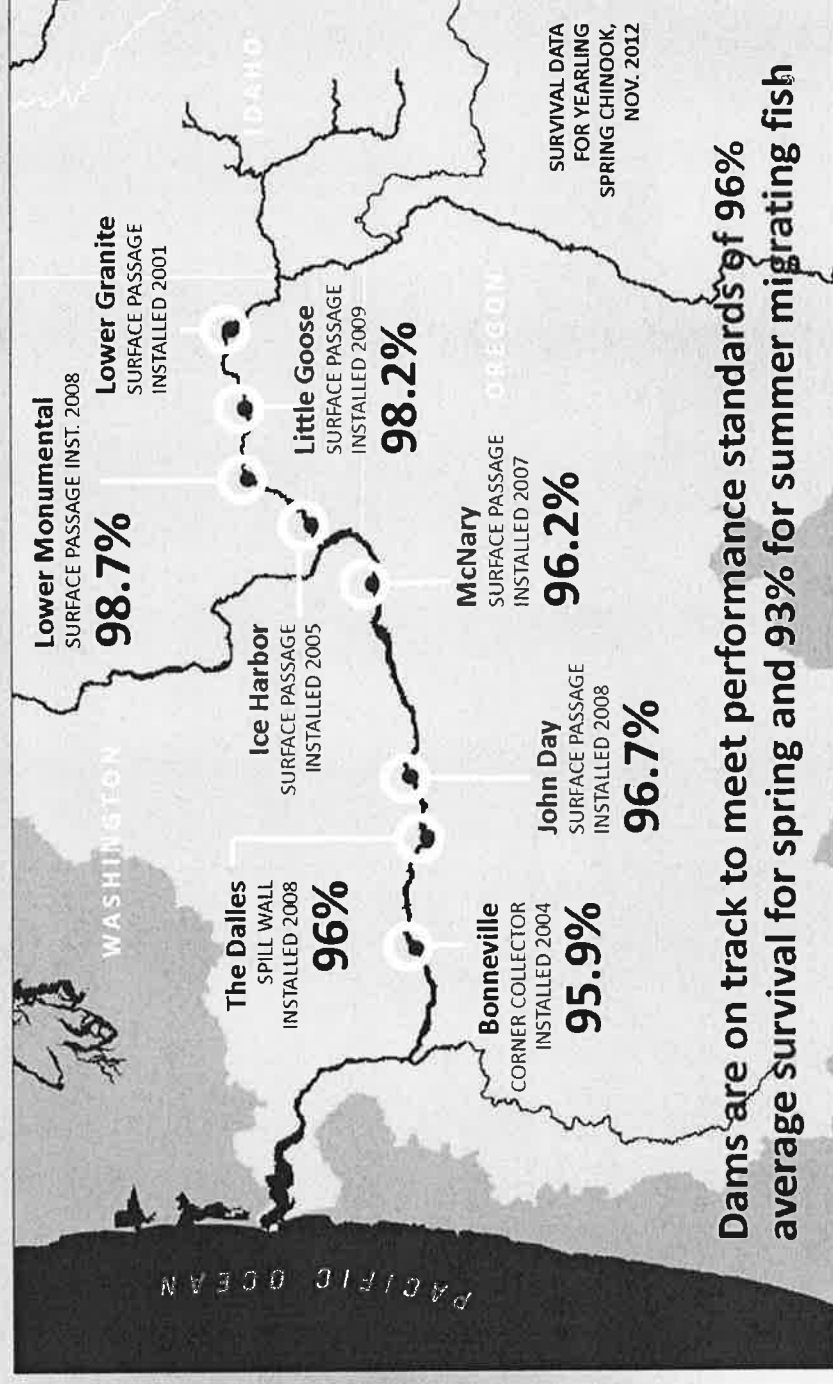
What about our fish?

- Growing emphasis on collaboration to help salmon, rather than litigation
- Current plan for salmon:
 - Supported by three states – Washington, Idaho, Montana
 - Supported by seven tribal partners
 - Supported by navigation, utility, and irrigation stakeholders



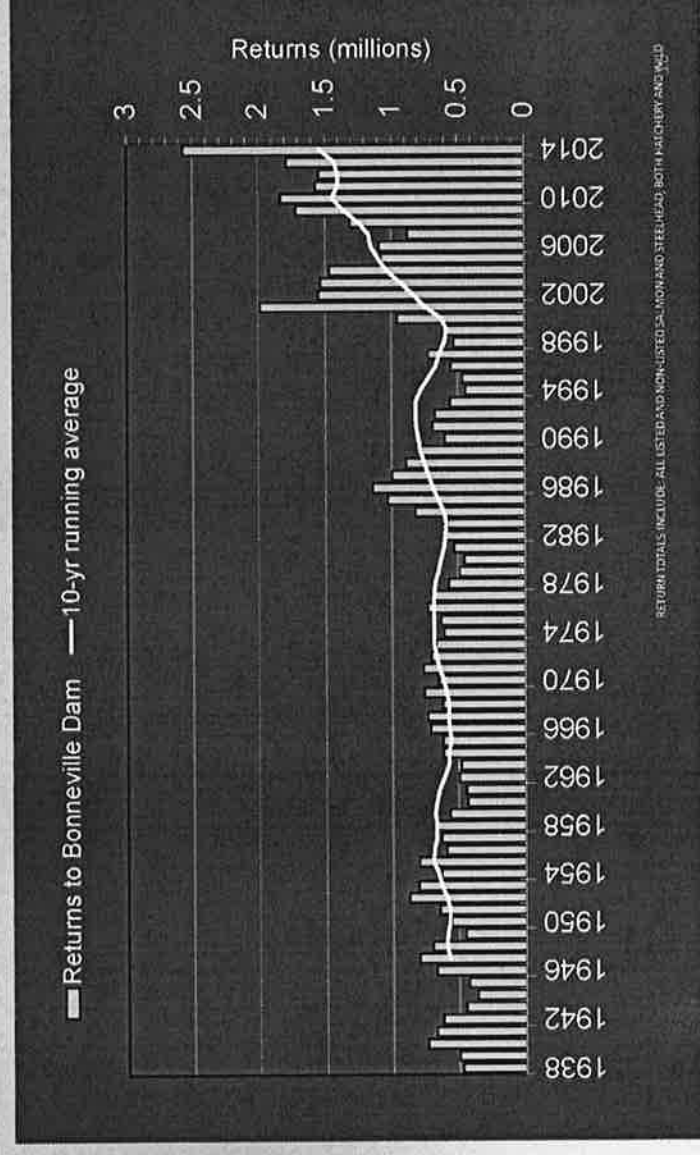
What about our fish?

- Juvenile survival at the dams now averages 97%
- NOAA Fisheries - responsible for protection of listed salmon - says that survival rates through the hydro system are now approaching levels seen in rivers without dams

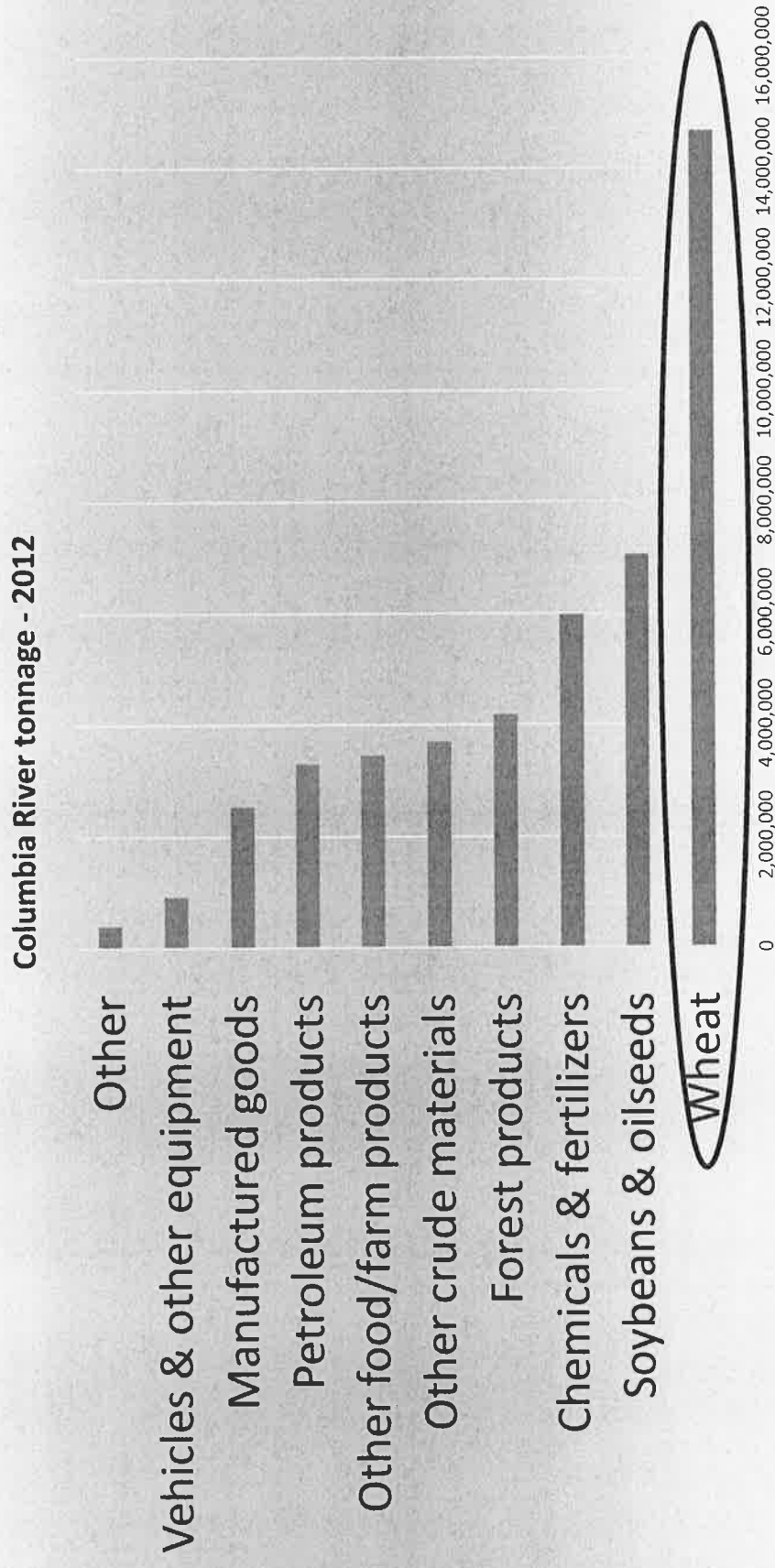


What about our fish?

- Today, there are more fish in the Columbia River than at any time since the first dam was built at Bonneville in 1938
- In 2014, over 2.5 million adult salmon and steelhead passed Bonneville Dam, setting new overall record levels since counts began in 1938. Of the fish returning in 2014, the sockeye, fall chinook, and coho were record or near-record runs, including the Snake River stocks.



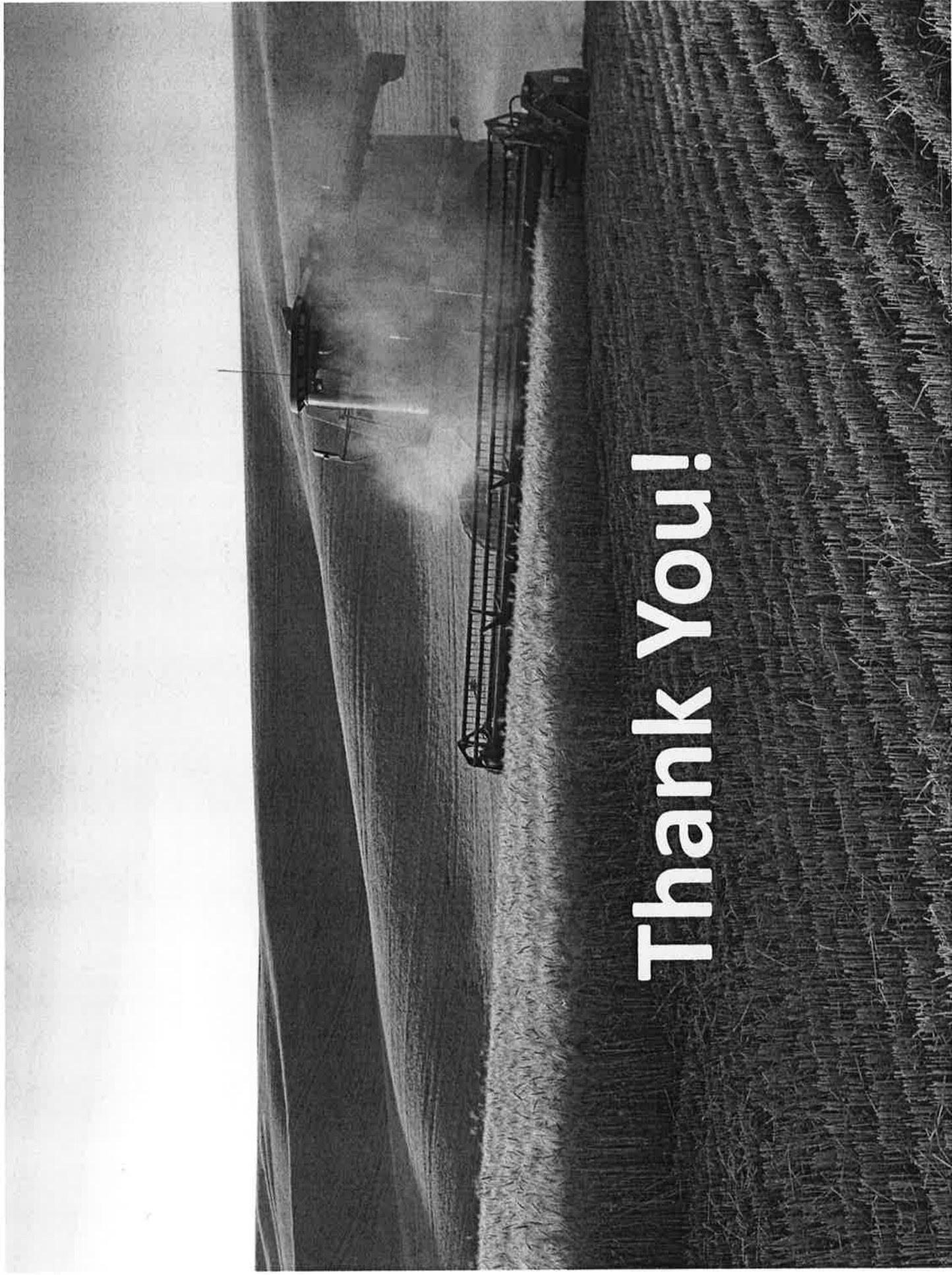
River System Important to Wheat Growers



United States of America

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Thank You!

AGENDA
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M.
Room WW53
Tuesday, February 02, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
Introduce:	Welcome and Introduction of Committee Intern, Ryan Lawrence	Chairman Rice
S 1215	Relating to the Commission on Pesticide Management	Darrell Bolz
Presentation:	Economics of Idaho Agriculture	Dr. Garth Taylor
Presentation:	Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission	Gretchen Hyde, Director

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Rice	Sen Den Hartog
Vice Chairman Bayer	Sen Harris
Sen Patrick	Sen Ward-Engelking
Sen Souza	Sen Burgoyne
Sen Lee	

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Carol Deis
Room: WW31
Phone: 332-1330
email: sagri@senate.idaho.gov

MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 02, 2016

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rice, Vice Chairman Bayer, Senators Patrick, Souza, Lee, Den Hartog, Harris, Ward-Engelking and Burgoyne

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Rice** called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

INTRODUCTION: **Welcome and Introduction of Committee Intern, Ryan Lawrence.** **Chairman Rice** introduced Ryan Lawrence, intern for the Agricultural Affairs Committee, and asked him to present his career path and what prompted him to seek out an Agricultural Affairs Internship.

S 1215 **Relating to the Commission on Pesticide Management.** **Darrell Bolz**, stated that in 2002 he sponsored the legislation that created the Commission on Pesticide Management. They now find that the Commission is not able to function as intended and this legislation will remove the Commission from Chapter 18, Title 22, Idaho Code.

Mr. Bolz said Roger Batt has taken over some of the responsibilities of the Commission's duties by creating the Seed Pesticide Council, which is acquiring some of the registrations for the minor crops in Idaho. There is also a national Minor Crop Pest Management Program Interregional Research Project #4 (IR-4 Project), headquartered out of the Rutgers University in New Jersey. The IR-4 Project has regional projects in the 13 Western states to register minor crops for pesticide management. The Commission was originally formed under Idaho Code in 2002 to assist the IR-4 Project, which runs on a priority basis. Because of that priority basis, many of the Idaho crops were not receiving registration. Unfortunately, the Commission lacked the funds to fulfill the pesticide management registration as intended and the Commission will be removed from code.

MOTION: **Senator Den Hartog** moved to send **S 1215** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Lee** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PRESENTATION: Economics of Idaho Agriculture. **Dr. Garth Taylor**, University of Idaho (UI), College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Financial Condition of Idaho Agriculture - 2015, offered an overview of what happened in Idaho agriculture last year. Idaho's 2015 cash receipts were \$8.7 billion, down 8 percent from last year; 2015 broke a five-year winning streak in agricultural production. The UI is forecasting \$7.9 billion in cash receipts for 2016. Since 2001, this real dollar amount sits at about 181 percent in agriculture production statewide. Idaho's growth rates have been approximately 3.9 percent since early 2000. They foresee movement of the industry heading towards the long-term agriculture growth in cash receipts. Milk cash receipts were down 27 percent and sugar beets and cattle/calves were the only portion of the industry that flourished in fiscal year 2015. It has been a dismal year for wheat, hay and potatoes and these crops will continue to drop.

He said in 2003, Idaho became the livestock state. Cattle, calves and milk account for 63% of the cash receipts in the state. Hay is Idaho's largest crop with cash receipts of \$551 million, and the value of production is more than \$1 billion.

Dr. Taylor explained that cash receipts from dairy have been up 140 percent since 1980. That growth is due to: 1. milk per cow; 2. number of cows and 3. growth in prices. In real dollar terms, prices have dropped by 38 percent since 1980. That means the farmers are getting less for their milk, but milk per cow has risen by 58 percent and the number of cows in the state has risen by 120 percent. Cows produced 13,000 pounds of milk per cow in 1980s; that is up to 26,000 pounds of milk per cow in 2015. Since 1990, farmers have been adding to their number of cows in the state by about 20,000 cows per year. That translates into 0.75 of an acre of feed for each additional milk cow, making the dairy industry one of the biggest propellants of growth in the Idaho agriculture economy.

Dr. Taylor discussed farm financials. In 2015, net farm income will go down 31 percent. Since 2000, there have been double-digit increases and decreases in the farm industry income. Agriculture has had this type of volatility and it will continue for some time. **Dr. Taylor** spoke to the farm sector debt balance sheets. The Idaho farmers debt management is reflecting the 1980 downturn of the farm depression. Farmers are taking on the level of debt that UI saw in the 1980s, but their debt asset ratio is at record lows. As the farmers face the lowered incomes and higher land prices, they will be facing this dilemma with clean balance sheets.

Dr. Taylor pointed out that economists look at how much the base or exports propel the state at each segment of the States economy. The State will get rich by bringing in exports as the engine of growth. This is the new money that drives the economy. When UI measured all the industry in the State by this equation, they found that agricultural business is the largest industry in Idaho with a 1 in every \$5 of sales or output in the State directly or indirectly tied to the exports.

Dr. Taylor highlighted that the real growth in agricultural business for Idaho's GDP is in production agriculture (4.7 percent) versus food processing (2.9 percent). Exports drive the production agriculture economy as the engine of growth. The export market started to decrease in 2015 by 25 percent and a shift took place on the destinations of those exports. Mexico is now the largest destination for Idaho's agricultural exports. This shift is symptomatic of a decline in exports from the U.S.

The U.S. is facing one of its biggest challenges in the export market: the Trans-Pacific Partnership proposal (TPP). This partnership is made up of 12 nations around the Pacific Rim. These nations account for 36 percent of the global trade in the world and 25 percent of all of the exports. The motivation behind the TPP is to remove the trade barriers for intellectual property. What the TPP indicates is: 1. the World Trade Organization (WTO) is broken and there is no transparency; 2. they have tried to get the trade restrictions with China removed but the only exception to the restrictions is that the Chinese are finally letting in American beef. The overall tariffs that face the U.S. is 2.2 percent, but an examination of agriculture exports in the TPP shows they are 37 percent. Reducing these high agricultural tariffs would be a tremendous gain for the U.S. agriculture industry (see attachment 1).

Dr. Taylor concluded with the 2016 revenue outlook that reflects: 1. a weak export market; 2. a strong dollar (11 year high); 3. weak foreign economies; 4. Russian embargo; and 5. record grain production. He summarized challenges with crop prices: 1. grains down 15 percent, hay continued low prices (almost not traded); 3. potatoes downward price; 4. beef prices declining; and 5. milk revenues weak and barely above break even for the rest of the year.

Senator Souza asked Dr. Taylor if he could clarify why there are such restrictive embargoes and tariffs for U.S. agricultural products in the world economy. The European Union (EU) does not allow some of the U.S. crops into their countries. **Dr. Taylor** explained that the EU is anti-GMO and its farmers are inefficient. These two reasons block U.S. crops from that sector of world trade. Japan and China have shut down their markets, at times, because of anti-GMO issues. These countries are looking for an excuse to protect their own markets and farmers.

PRESENTATION: Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission. Gretchen Hyde, Director, commenced her presentation by stating that the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission (IRRC) is funded by a refundable assessment to ranchers and it commenced in 1997. The funding is based on a 2-cent-per-acre category five dry land grazing assessment as well as a 10 cents per animal unit month (AUM) of public and state grazing fees. The Idaho "On the Range" license plate has also augmented their budget needs. These added funds have allowed IRRC to expand some of their educational programs. (see attachment 2).

The two main focus areas of the IRRC are education and outreach (public relations). Some of the educational outreach programs are Future Farmers of America (FFA) and 4H. Most of the youth programs have been geared to the midwest so IRRC is creating a Western curriculum for these two groups. **Ms. Hyde** explained why outreach to these groups is important. The more the students are educated the more they will support the rangeland when they reach adulthood.

IRRC's outreach programs are targeting recreational users, such as hikers, bikers, hunters and fishermen. Their public opinion poll included in their annual report indicates that people support the use of rangeland for livestock grazing. Another outreach program is the Care and Share Program, which has been a long-term partnership with agencies to create trailhead signs and kiosks to educate the users in a specific area. One of the Care and Share areas is the Boise Front Range, which was one of the first sites selected because of the hiking and biking. This area is rangeland and there is still livestock in the area. Another successful use of their public relations efforts has been their annual press releases as the sheep come across the Boise Front.

IRRC's mission is to form a positive relationship with other users both on public and private lands and to ensure an informed public that understands that the livestock industry is important to Idaho. (see attachment 2). Idaho's rangeland programs work because of good management. Their website outreach contains more than 30 video stories of life on the range throughout the State.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business **Chairman Rice** adjourned the meeting at 9:22 a.m.

Senator Rice
Chair

Carol Deis
Secretary



IDAHO RANGELAND RESOURCE COMMISSION

P.O. Box 126, Emmett ID 83617
Phone: (208)398-7002 website: idahorange.org

IRRC Board Members

January 15, 2016

Chris Black, Chairman
Bruneau, ID

Todd Holbrook
Bancroft, ID

Royce Schwenkfelder
Cambridge, ID

Ross Goddard
Tendoy, ID

John Peavey
Carey, ID

To: Senator Jim Rice, Chairman
Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee
Representative Ken Andrus, Chairman
House Agricultural Affairs Committee
Senator Steve Bair, Chairman
Senate Resources & Environment Committee
Representative Dell Raybould, Chairman
House Resources and Conservation Committee
Legislative Audits, April Renfro
State Controller's Office, Carol Bearce
Legislative Services Office, Ray Houston
Division of Financial Management, Shelby Kerns

From: Gretchen Hyde, Executive Director

Staff

Gretchen Hyde
Executive Director

RE: Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission 2015 Report

Attached are the Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission 2016 Projected Profit & Loss Budget Overview and the 2015 Audited Financial Statements as required by Section 58-1415 (4), Idaho Code.

The IRRC has very active and successful public relations and education programs. A copy of the information annual report is included in this annual report for your review.

If you would like a presentation of these financial statements and the activities of the IRRC, please contact me at 398-7002 or email at ghyde@idrange.org.

Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission

Statement of Projected Income and Expenses Budget Proposal for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016

FY 2016

State Lands	\$ 24,000
BLM	\$ 80,000
USFS	\$ 32,000
Private Lands	\$ 55,000
Total Assessments	\$ 191,000
Less requested refunds	\$ 4,000
Net Assessments	\$ 187,000
License Plate Revenue	\$ 35,000
Grant Income	\$ 15,000
Grant Income	\$ 30,000
Interest Income on MM account	\$ 200
Net Revenue	\$ 267,200
Education Program expenses:	
Teacher workshops	\$ 7,500
Teacher grants	\$ 5,000
Range Poster/ distribution	\$ 500
FFA Range contest	\$ 500
4-H/Youth Programs	\$ 5,000
Range Mat'l Develop/Compile	\$ 1,000
Envirothon/ Ag In The Classroom	\$ 1,500
McCall Outdoor Science School	\$ 500
Education Coordinator	\$ 10,000
Education coordinator travel/ dues	\$ 1,400
Education supplies	\$ 400
Teacher Newsletter	\$ 1,000
Internet Site	\$ 2,000
Education/Teacher Workshops total	\$ 36,300
Industry/Research expenses:	
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 700
University of Idaho-Range Center	\$ -
Convention/Meetings	\$ 2,500
Public opinion poll	\$ -
Tour/Symposium	\$ 5,000
Research Grants	\$ 5,000
Newsletter/outreach	\$ 1,500
Industry/Research total	\$ 14,700

Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission

Statement of Projected Income and Expenses
Budget Proposal for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016

Public Relations expenses:

NPR underwriting
Industry Group outreach grants
Idaho Public TV
License Plate
Trailing of the Sheep
Public Opinion Poll
Care/Share campaign
Life on the Range Website
Website ad's
Public Relations/Mass media total

\$	25,000
\$	2,000
\$	-
\$	3,000
\$	2,500
\$	-
\$	35,000
\$	25,000
\$	-
\$	92,500

Administration Expenses:

Payroll Expenses
Bank Service Charge
Office Equipment/Supplies
Postage
PO Box Rental
Copies
Audit
Computer Services--Private Billings
Insurance
Legal-Attorney General
Telephone
Travel Expenses
Depreciation
Office Rent
Administration expenses:
Total Expenses
Income Over/(Under) Expenses
Capital Investment/Contingency
Carry Over from prior year
Fund Balance, End of Year

\$	89,300
\$	600
\$	800
\$	100
\$	100
\$	200
\$	1,700
\$	1,000
\$	1,300
\$	100
\$	2,000
\$	12,000
\$	500
\$	14,000
\$	123,700
\$	267,200
\$	-
\$	1,500
\$	206,300
\$	207,800

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Twelve Month Period Ended June 30, 2015

PREPARED FOR:

IDAHO RANGELAND RESOURCES COMMISSION

PREPARED BY:

Wilson, Harris & Co.
Certified Public Accountants
1602 W. Franklin Street
Boise, Idaho 83702

September 28, 2015

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WILSON, HARRIS & COMPANY
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American Institute of Certified Public Accounts

John Harris, C.P.A.
Brady W. Wilson, C.P.A.
James P. Warr, C.P.A.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Chairman and Members
Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission
PO Box 126
Emmett, Idaho 83617

We have audited the accompanying general-purpose financial statements of Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015 as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Page 2

Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission

Independent Auditor's Report

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 28, 2015 on our consideration of the Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission's internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.



Wilson, Harris & Co.
Certified Public Accountants

September 28, 2015

IDAHO RANGELAND RESOURCES COMMISSION
BALANCE SHEET
JUNE 30, 2015

<u>ASSETS:</u>	<u>2015</u>
Current Assets:	
Cash in Checking	\$ 10,745
Local Government Investment Pool	189,292
Accounts Receivable	5,806
Inventory	<u>2,747</u>
Total Current Assets	208,591
 Property and Equipment:	
Computer & Office Equipment	31,138
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(30,279)</u>
Total Property and Equipment	859
 TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>209,450</u></u>
 <u>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE:</u>	
Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	2,155
Accrued Payroll & Payroll Taxes	<u>995</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>3,150</u>
 Fund Balance:	
Unreserved Fund Balance	205,441
Net Investment in Fixed Assets	<u>859</u>
Total Fund Balance	<u>206,300</u>
 TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	<u><u>\$ 209,450</u></u>

See Accompanying Notes and Independent Auditor's Report

IDAHO RANGELAND RESOURCES COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

	<u>2015</u>
<u>REVENUE:</u>	
Assessments	\$ 188,516
Less: Requested Refunds	(2,457)
Registration Fees	1,635
Grants	22,316
Sale of Materials	5,351
Less: Cost of Goods Sold	(6,699)
License Plate	36,270
Interest Income	<u>243</u>
Total Revenue	245,175
 <u>EXPENDITURES:</u>	
Payroll Expenses	85,460
Bank Charges	944
Education Expenses	32,788
Insurance	1,253
Office Supplies	1,656
Postage & Freight	177
Professional Fees	1,700
Public Relations	85,254
Rent	13,999
Telephone	1,976
Travel & Meals	8,247
Research/Industry Expenses	25,129
Depreciation	<u>815</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>259,399</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	(14,224)
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>220,524</u>
FUND BALANCE, END OF YEAR	<u><u>\$ 206,300</u></u>

See Accompanying Notes and Independent Auditor's Report

IDAHO RANGELAND RESOURCES COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

	<u>2015</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	\$ (14,224)
Adjustments to reconcile excess of revenues over expenditures to cash provided by operating activities:	
Depreciation	815
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	8,102
(Increase) decrease in inventory	4,890
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	<u>(1,123)</u>
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	<u>(1,540)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
Capital expenditures	-
Accumulated Depreciation Adjustment	<u>-</u>
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES	<u>-</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	
Prior Period Adjustments	<u>-</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(1,540)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - BEGINNING OF PERIOD	<u>201,578</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF PERIOD	<u><u>\$ 200,037</u></u>

See Accompanying Notes and Independent Auditor's Report

IDAHO RANGELAND RESOURCES COMMISSION

Notes to the Financial Statements

June 30, 2015

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Organization

The Commission was created by Chapter 14, Title 58, Idaho Code, which was passed by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Phil Batt during the 1994 legislative session. The organization's mission is to provide programs that result in an informed public that understands and supports balanced, responsible management of Idaho's economically vital public and private rangelands. Activities of the Commission are funded by mandatory assessments to owners of dry grazing land and fees based on animal unit months on all domestic cattle and sheep utilizing state grazing lands, United States forest service lands, and bureau of land management lands in the state of Idaho. The Commission may also receive grants, donations and gifts from the general public.

Reporting Entity

The Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission is an "other stand-alone government" that does not meet the definition of a primary government or a component unit as embodied in GASB statement No. 14. There are no component units of the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission.

Basis of Accounting

The modified accrual basis of accounting is followed by governmental funds. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual, i.e., both measurable and available. Available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures, other than interest on long-term debts, are recorded when the liability is incurred.

The accounting policies of the Commission conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the government's accounting policies are described below.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that effect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

IDAHO RANGELAND RESOURCE COMMISSION
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
June 30, 2015

Accounts Receivable

Accounts Receivable at June 30, 2015 includes assessments collected by the Idaho Department of Lands that had not yet been forwarded to the Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission. The amount collected but not forwarded by June 30, 2015 amounted to \$3,494.

NOTE 2: CONCENTRATIONS OF CREDIT RISKS

The Commission maintains a cash balance in one financial institution located in Emmett, Idaho. The balance is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to \$250,000. At June 30, 2015, the Commission's uninsured cash balances total \$-0-.

NOTE 3: CASH FLOW INFORMATION

The commission considers all short-term investments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Cash paid for interest for the year ended June 30, 2015 was \$0.00.

NOTE 4: ASSESSMENT REVENUE

Assessment revenue consisted of the following:

AUM Assessments	\$128,820
Private Per Acre Assessment	59,695
Requested Refunds	<u>(2,456)</u>
Net	<u>\$186,059</u>

NOTE 5: PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF IDAHO

The Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho (PERSI) – The PERSI Base Plan, a cost sharing multiple-employer public retirement system, was created by the Idaho State Legislature. It is a defined benefit plan requiring that both the member and the employer contribute. The plan provides benefits based on members' years of service, age, and compensation. In addition, benefits are provided for disability, death, and survivors of eligible members or beneficiaries. The authority to establish and amend benefit provisions is established in Idaho Code. Designed as a mandatory system for eligible state and school district employees, the legislation provided for other political subdivisions to participate by contractual agreement with PERSI.

IDAHO RANGELAND RESOURCE COMMISSION
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
June 30, 2015

NOTE 5: PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF IDAHO (Continued)

After 5 years of credited service, members become fully vested in retirement benefits earned to date. Members are eligible for retirement benefits upon attainment of the ages specified for their employment classification. For each month of credited service, the annual service retirement allowance is 2.0% (2.3% police/firefighter) of the average monthly salary for the highest consecutive 42 months.

PERSI issues publically available stand alone financial reports that include audited financial statements and required supplementary information. These reports may be obtained from PERSI's website www.persi.idaho.gov.

The actuarially determined contribution requirements of the Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission and its employees are established and may be amended by the PERSI Board of Trustees. For the year ended June 30, 2015, the required contribution rate as a percentage of covered payrolls for members was 6.23% for general members and 7.65% for police/firefighters. The employer rate as a percentage of covered payroll was 10.39% for general members and 10.73% for police/firefighter members. The Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission employer contributions required and paid were \$7,217, \$7,887, and \$6,003 for the three years ended June 30, 2015, 2014, and 2013, respectively.

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REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL
REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON
AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED
IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

To the Board of Directors
Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission

We have audited the financial statements of Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015 and have issued our report thereon dated September 28, 2015. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the organization's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the organization's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the organization's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the organization's internal control.

Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission

Compliance and Internal Controls

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, others within the entity, the Board of Trustees, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Wilson, Harris & Co.

Wilson, Harris & Company

9/28/15

2 0 1 5

Annual Report

Welcome to the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission's first-ever annual report. In our quest to serve our constituents in the best way possible, we're providing highlights of our public outreach efforts on an annual basis.

In 2015, IRRC's top story was a positive one. A University of Idaho public opinion poll found that 90 percent of the Idaho public supports livestock grazing as a legitimate use of public lands, the same number that supports guided recreation and mountain biking. This is a 10-point uptick in public support from the UI poll conducted in 2001. The poll results were broadcast in a press release and a briefing paper to Idaho legislators.

"We think Idahoans are seeing improved range management when they're out recreating on rangelands and forests. And over the last five years, we've highlighted more than 30 stories of ranchers engaged in rangeland stewardship through the Commission's "Life on the Range" web site and video series,"

said Bruneau rancher Chris Black, Chairman of the Rangeland Commission.

"We feel it's important to show real people doing tangible things to improve public lands, the environment and threatened and endangered species, including candidate species such as sage grouse," Black continued. "That's what is expected in 21st Century public lands management."

Life on the Range stories on Three Creek rancher Jared Bracket and Pahsimeroi rancher Tom Page showed how they're finding ways to run productive ranching operations while improving habitat for sage grouse and other wildlife species. The Life on the Range crew also rolled out stories on Spring Turnout, range rehabilitation successes in the Elk and Pony fire zones near Mountain Home, and Interior Secretary Sally Jewell's new fire prevention and restoration strategy in Idaho and the Great Basin. View story videos and features on www.lifeontherange.org.

Continued on page 3



We're a state agency with an educational mission.

IRRC Outreach Helps Move the Needle



Gretchen Hyde
Executive Director

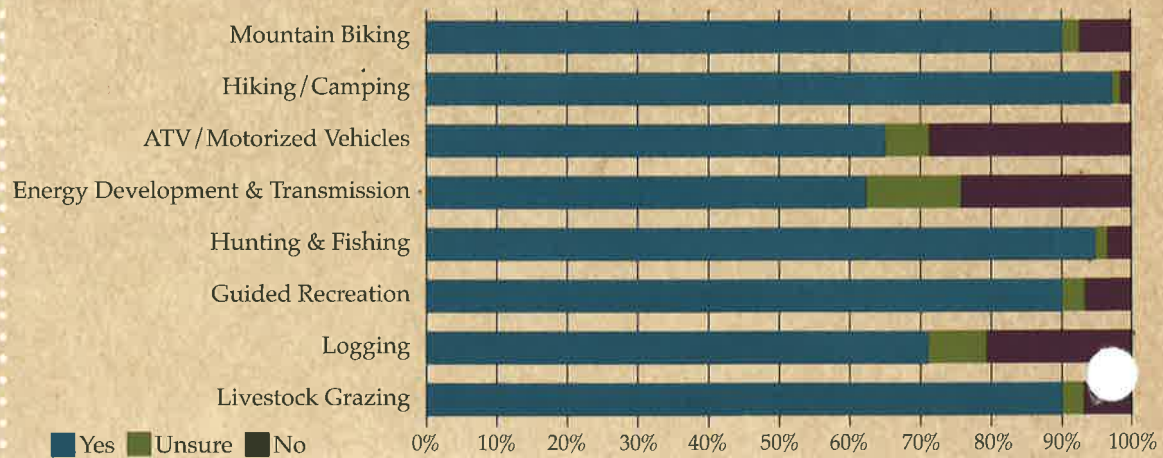


Like us on Facebook!
[facebook.com/Life-on-the-Range](https://www.facebook.com/Life-on-the-Range)

It's heartening to see that Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission's outreach work is making a difference in the public perception and understanding of livestock grazing on public and private lands. With half of Idaho classified as rangeland, this resource is vital to the livestock industry in Idaho.

Increasing support for grazing on rangelands is validated by the University of Idaho public opinion poll sponsored by the IRRC early this year. I want to underscore several aspects of the poll.

Respondents were asked about their own use of rangelands. The break down included ATV (18%), hunting (30%), fishing (28%), livestock grazing (6%), horseback riding (12%), mountain biking (12%), hiking (34%) and camping (37%). Several recreate on rangelands in multiple ways. These people were asked about the approval of various activities on rangelands. Below are the results:



Not surprisingly, hiking and camping received the highest acceptability. What might be surprising to some is that 90% of the respondents support livestock grazing on public lands. That's a 10 percent increase from a poll taken in 2001. Together, IRRC, Idaho ranchers and our partners are moving the needle in the right direction.

Mission Statement

To provide programs that result in an informed public that understands and supports balanced responsible management of Idaho's economically vital private and public rangelands.

Another question found that 84% either strongly or somewhat agree that private rangeland provide a large portion of wildlife habitat. When asked who they believe are reliable sources of information about rangeland, ranchers received the highest marks with 84%, agreeing that they are either very or somewhat reliable. This

Continued next page

IRRC Outreach, continued

Number has grown from almost 10 percent since 1997, when IRRC was formed.

Using this polling data, the IRRC can target specific audiences and markets. Overall, our target market is urban recreationists who use public lands. The Care/Share Project has reduced conflicts between recreational users and livestock producers with signs, trailhead kiosks, brochures, and social and mass media. The Life on the Range website showcases more than 30 documentary videos and stories about rancher stewardship. The Life on the Range YouTube channel has reached over 287,000 viewers so far!

Providing a long-term educational program also plays into these results. The IRRC provides classroom materials, lessons, activities, and programs for K-12 classrooms, outdoor schools, ag and natural resource field days, FFA and now 4-H. Working with the University of Idaho, IRRC continues to reach teachers and youth educators with valuable lessons on rangeland ecology and management.

The newest education program is the 4-H Rangeland Skill-a-thon. This event took place in May at Royce Schwenkfelder's ranch in Cambridge. The key is to teach kids about how working ranches also provide wildlife habitat. Management can be tweaked to enhance both. Students learned about rangeland management and were given a wildlife challenge on the greater sage-grouse to present to a panel of judges. The winning senior team qualified for the National Wildlife Habitat Education Program, which was held in Alabama this summer. The goal is to develop a full curriculum and expand the contest to more students in the future. Several western states are also coming on board to work on programs in their respective states. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting program. - Gretchen Hyde

Continued from page 1

Sheep on TV –

Working with Wilder sheep rancher Frank Shirts, IRRC public relations outreach on sheep crossing through the Boise Foothills on their way to the high country -- as they have done for more than a century -- is yielding tens of thousands of views and positive press during the spring and fall sheep migration. The 23-minute Life on the Range story on Frank Shirts raising sheep from lambing to shipping has been watched more than 190,424 times on YouTube, so far.

Care / Share Outreach at Public Trailheads

Five new Care/Share signs and trailhead kiosks were installed at five popular trailheads

in the Owyhee Mountains near Murphy this year. The signs, titled, "Sharing the Owyhees with Livestock and Recreation," give tips to recreation users about what to do if they encounter cattle on the trail. The signs also talk about No Trespassing on private lands, closing gates, and not harming water troughs and developments.

Care/Share grants from the Bureau of Land Management (\$15,000) and U.S. Forest Service (\$30,000) provide much-needed funds for working with agency officials, ranchers and recreationists to develop sign art, photo shoots and design work. The grants also cover the cost of building kiosks and sign printing.



In the Boise National Forest, new Care/Share signs for Sagehen Reservoir were

installed in late August 2014, giving tips to campers about what to do if cattle wander into their campsites. IRRC also has created new sheep signage for the BLM's Croy Creek trailheads near Hailey, titled "Recreation and Sheep: Tips for Getting Along."

More Care/Share signage projects are in the works for the popular Mink Creek trailheads south of Pocatello in the Caribou-Targhee National Forest, Galena Lodge in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area and BLM trailheads

south of Twin Falls. If you have ideas about where more Care/Share signs are needed, please contact Gretchen Hyde at ghyde@idahorange.org.



- BLM Assessment
- USFS Assessment
- State Lands Assessment
- Private Assessment
- Grants/Other
- License Plate



IRRC Revenue

The IRRC has been successful in developing partnerships and grants to help fund many of these programs. But without the support of the livestock producers, these programs would not exist. The assessment rates for state, federal and private land is the same as it was in 1997, when the rates were originally set. The total assessment for 2015 was \$188,516, with requests for refund of less than 2%. The revenue from the "On the Range" license plate is slowly increasing every year.

This graph, left, represents the past year's revenue for IRRC. The expenses vary year-to-year, but are focused on the education, public relations and research opportunities that take priority every year. The IRRC board works hard to get the most out of every dollar received.

IRRC board and advisory members:

A volunteer board of five voting members, appointed by the Governor, governs the IRRC. They each serve a five-year term.

IRRC Board Members

Chris Black, Chairman

Joe Black & Sons
Bruneau, Idaho

Royce Schwenkfelder

SS Cattle Company
Cambridge, Idaho

Ross Goddard

Goddard Cattle Company
Tendoy, Idaho

John Peavey

Flat Top Sheep Company
Carey, Idaho

Todd Holbrook

Holbrook Ranches LLC
Bancroft, Idaho

IRRC Advisory Members

Tim Murphy

BLM Idaho State Director

Virgil Moore

Director, Idaho Department
of Fish and Game

Tom Schulz

Director, Idaho Department
of Lands

Curtis Elke

Idaho State Director
Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Celia Gould

Director, Idaho Department
of Agriculture

Dustin Miller

Director, Governor's Office of
Species Conservation

Myra Black

Rangeland Management Staff
Officer, Boise and Sawtooth
National Forests

Kurt Pregitzer

Dean, College of Natural
Resources, University of Idaho

Karen Launchbaugh

Professor Rangeland Ecology
and Management, University of
Idaho Rangeland Center
President, Society for Range
Management, Idaho Section

Financial Condition of Idaho Agriculture – 2015

Garth Taylor & Ben Eborn
House and Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee
February 2, 2016

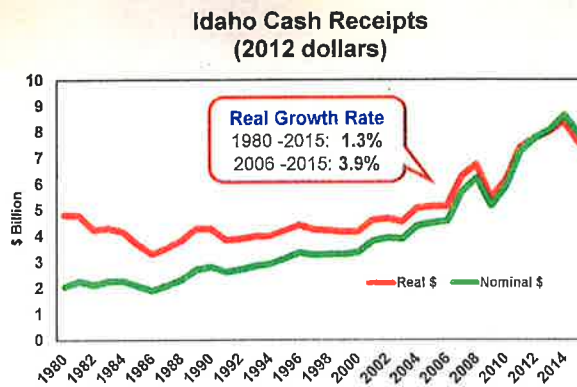
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College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

Overview

- 2015 forecast
 - Farm gate cash receipts
 - Government payments
 - Net farm income
- Farm financials
- Ag in Idaho's economy
- 2016 outlook

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2015 cash receipts drop 9%, back to 2012 levels



\$8.7 billion, 2014



\$7.9 billion, 2015

Source: USDA-ERS, 2015 University of Idaho

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Cash Receipt Ups & Downs

Crops \$3.1 billion, ↓3%

Potatoes: ↓3%

Barley: ↑7%

Dry Beans: ↓1%

Wheat: ↓17%

Sugarbeets: ↑19%

Hay: ↓12%

Livestock \$4.8 billion, ↓13%

Cattle & Calves: ↑8%

Milk: ↓27%

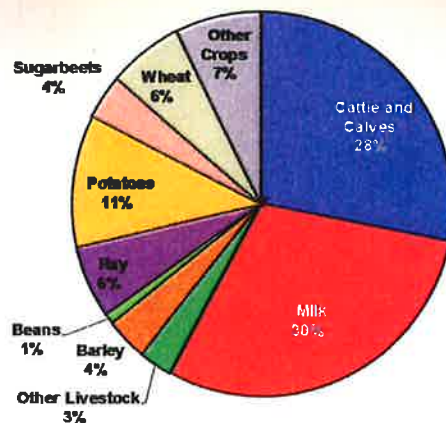


Source: University of Idaho

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Idaho Ag is Livestock

Idaho Cash Receipts, 2015

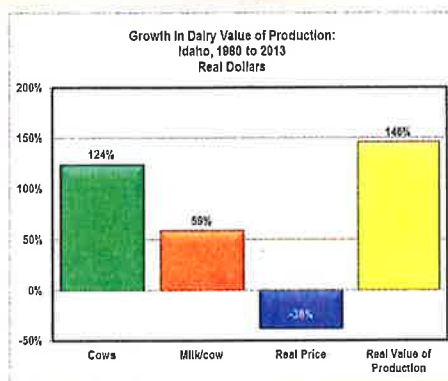


Source: University of Idaho

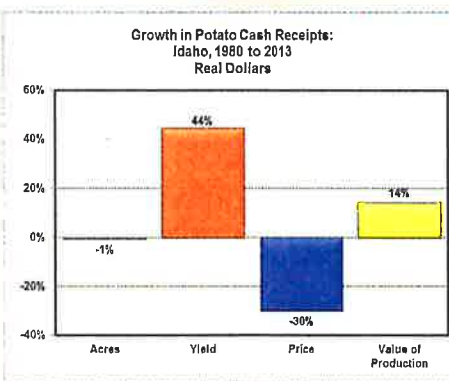
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Ag growth comes from innovation

Dairy



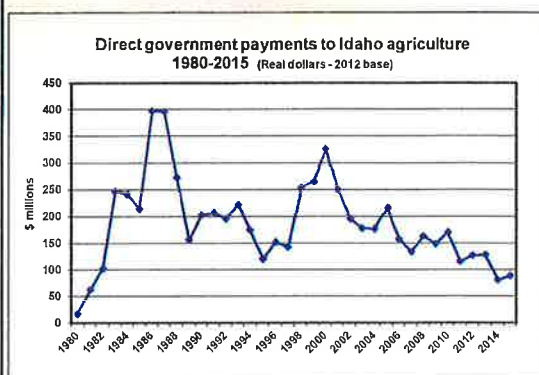
Potatoes



Source: University of Idaho

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Idaho Government Payments



Source: USDA-ERS, 2015 University of Idaho & FSA

Government payments to Idaho agriculture, FY 2015, \$61.5 million



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Idaho Government Programs

- FY 2015 FSA paid \$415 m
 - \$61 million in direct payments
 - Marketing Assistance Loans - \$248 million
 - Beginning farmer ownership/operating loans - \$99 million
- New programs
 - **Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC)** – dry land crops or corn
 - **Price Loss Coverage (PLC)** – irrigated crops (not spuds, beets, other crops)
 - **Margin Protection Program (MPP)** difference between the all-milk price and average feed costs. - 50% of Idaho dairies have signed up for basic (free minimum) 1 dairy signed up for more protection
- Direct payments
 - Conservation programs (CRP and CREP)
 - Livestock programs
- Whole-Farm Revenue Protection Insurance

Source: USDA FSA

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Idaho FSA outlays 2013 to 2015

Program (\$ Mill)		2013	2014	2015
Total Loans & Payments		486	430	415
Loans	Marketing Assistance loans	363	216	255
	Beginning Farmer Loans	79	119	99
Direct Payments	Disaster	5.5	5.1	24
	Conservation	40	36	37

Source: UDSA FSA

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Net farm income down 31%

Net farm income \$1.34 billion, down 31%

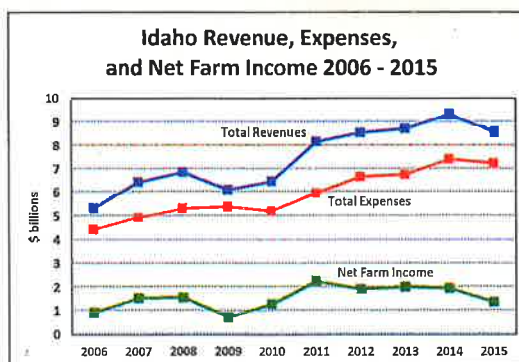
➤ 13% below 10 year avg.

Revenues down 8%

- Livestock receipts (-13%)
- Crop receipts (-3%)
- Govt. payments (+10%)

Expenses down 2%

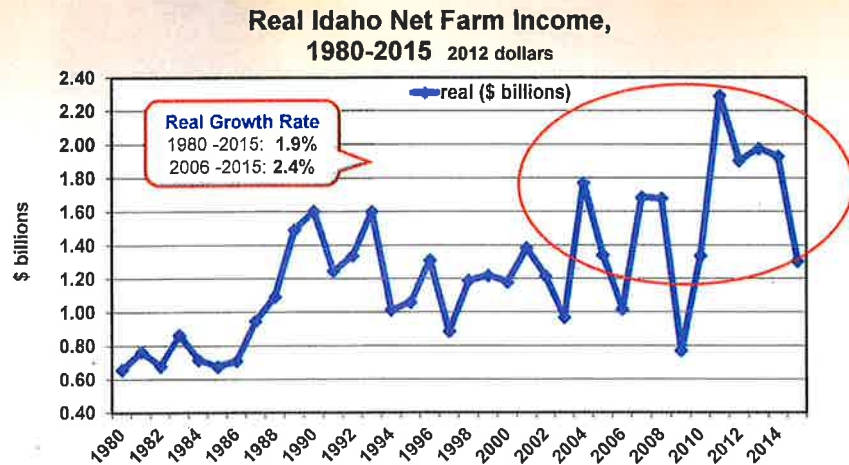
- Farm origin inputs (-5%)
- Manufactured inputs (-12%)
- Other inputs (0%)



Source: USDA-ERS, 2015 University of Idaho

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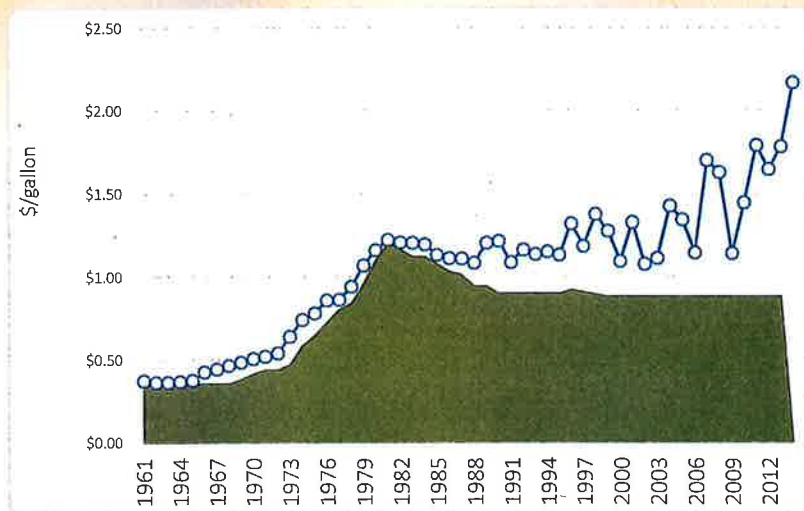
Idaho net farm income returns to 2-3% growth



Source: USDA-ERS, 2015 University of Idaho

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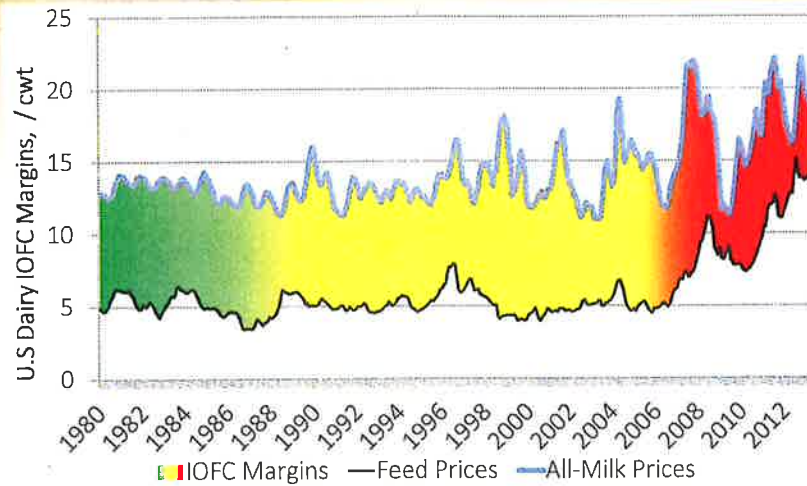
U.S. Farm-level Milk Prices, 1961-2014



Source: Bozic U. of MN

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Income over Feed Costs Margins – Squeezed on Both Ends!

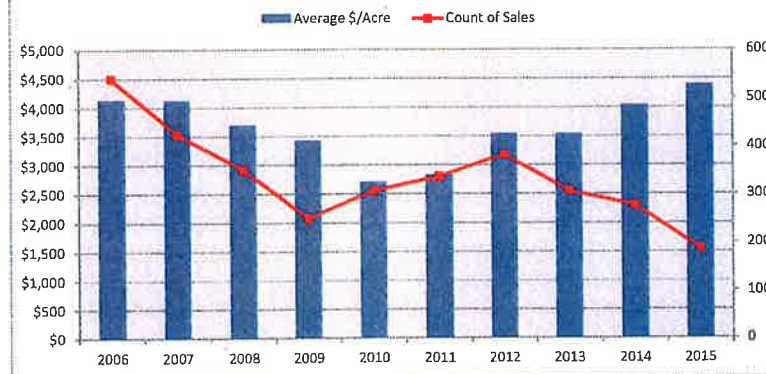


Source: Bozic U. of MN

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Farmland values continue to rise

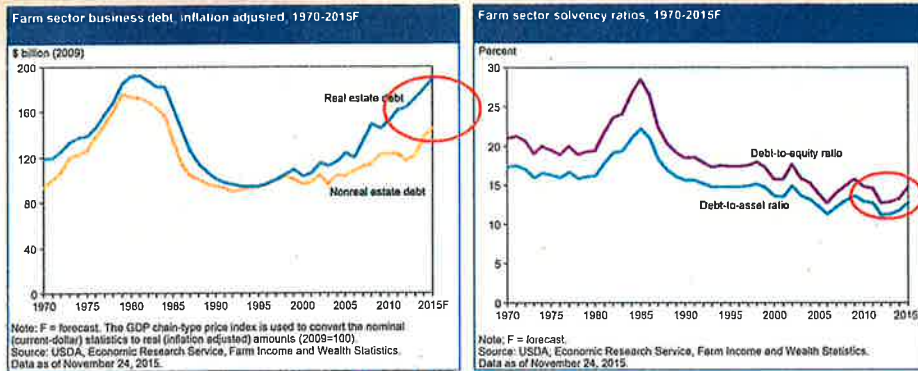
Average dollar per acre land value and number of sales forty acres in size and greater in Idaho



Source: Northwest Farm Credit Service

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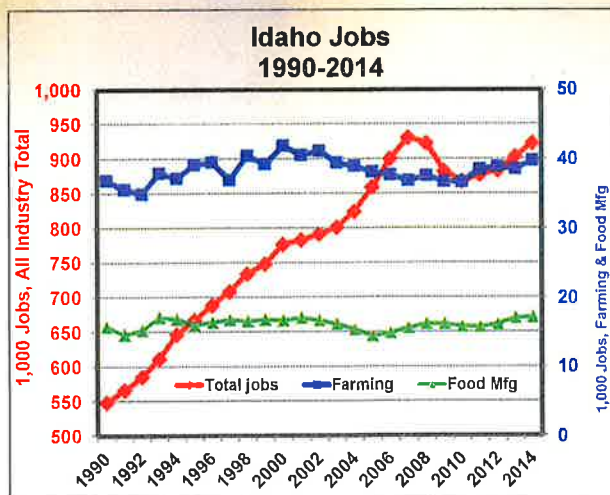
High debt offset by clean balance sheets



Source: USDA-ERS

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Farming & food manufacturing = steady jobs

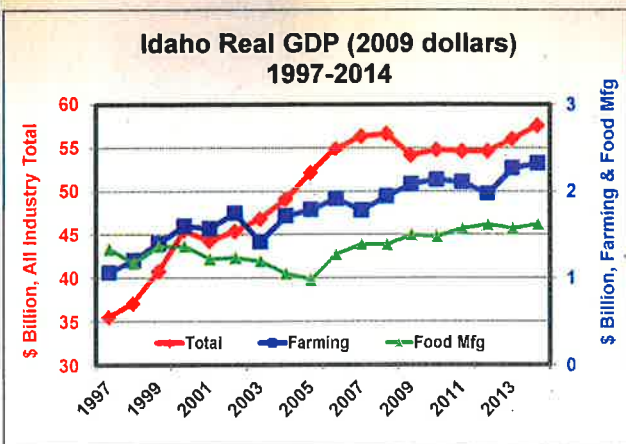


Source: US Dept. of Commerce, BEA

- **Total Idaho jobs**
 - 923,000 jobs
 - Increased 20,000
- **Farm jobs**
 - 39,800 jobs 2014
 - 4.3% Idaho total
 - Increased 1200 jobs
- **Food mfg jobs**
 - 17,100 jobs 2014
 - 1.9% Idaho total
 - Increased 90 jobs

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Farming GDP is growing faster than Idaho GDP



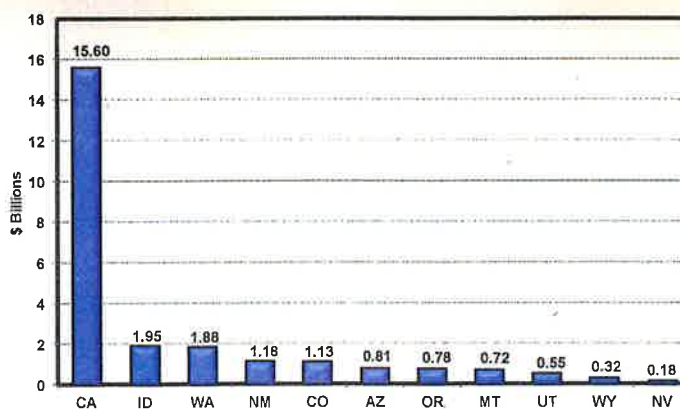
- **Idaho GDP (2009\$)**
 - \$58 billion in 2014
 - 2.9% (1997-2013) growth rate
- **Farming GDP (2009\$)**
 - 4% of Idaho GDP
 - 4.7% (1997-2014) growth rate
 - 2.5% increase over 2013
- **Food mfg GDP (2009\$)**
 - 2.8% of Idaho GDP
 - 1.1% (1997-2014) growth rate
 - 3% increase over 2013

Source: US Dept. of Commerce, BEA

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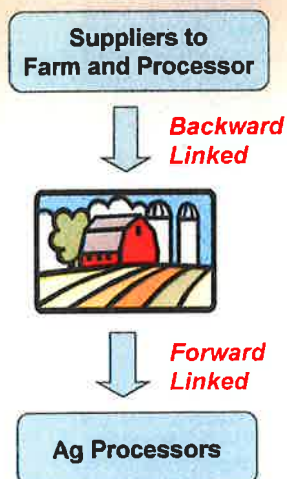
Of the 11 West states Idaho ranks 2nd in Ag

**Net Farm Income
11 Western States, 2014**



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What is Ag Business?



➤ What is Ag Business ?

- Middle link (the farm)
- Backward links (suppliers to farms & processors)
- Forward links (processors)

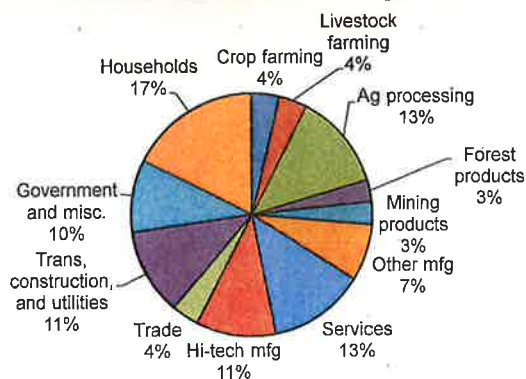
➤ Contribution measures:

- **Accounting.**
- **Base economy.** driven exports (new money in economy)

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Multiplier effects...AgBiz Idaho's largest industry

Idaho base output by sector of the Idaho economy, 2013



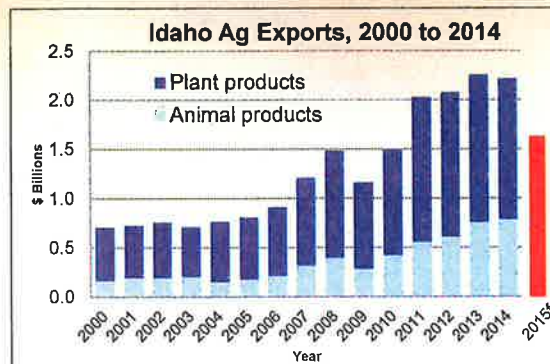
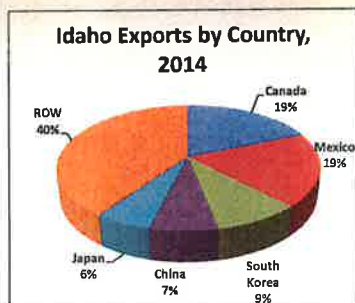
AgBiz multiplier effects

- 20% of output or sales
- 14% of jobs
- 16% of GDP

Source: Taylor & Eborn University of Idaho

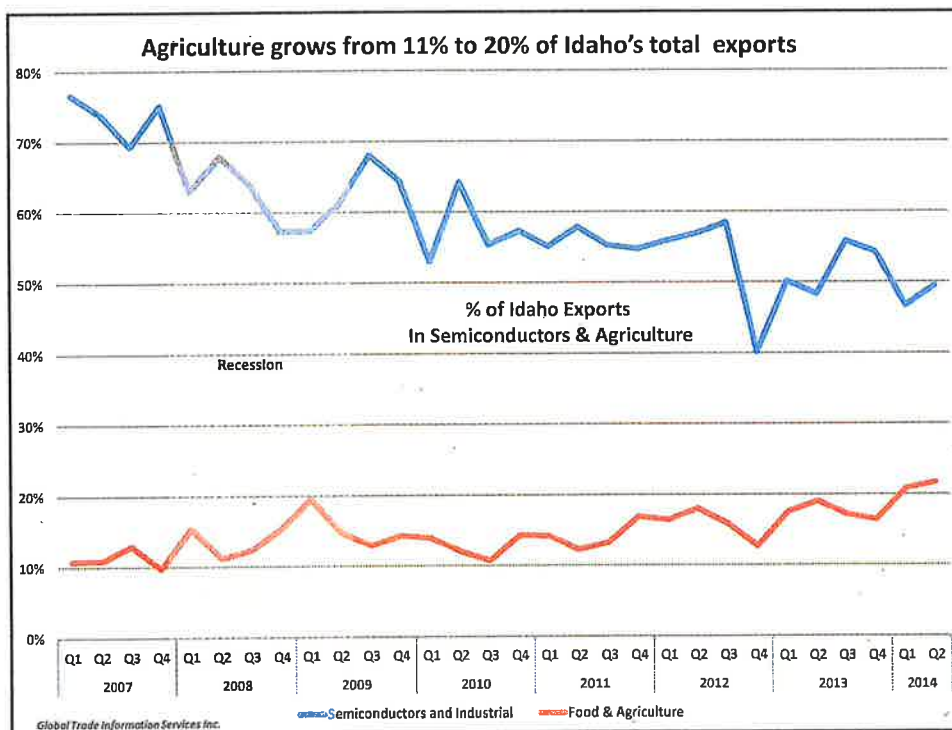
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Idaho Ag exports decline 25% in 2015

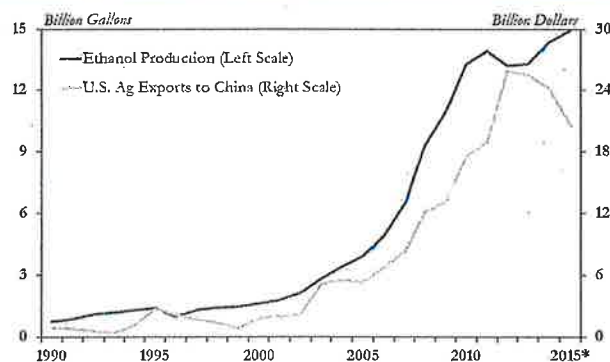


Source: Laura Johnson Idaho Dept. of Ag and USDA

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Ethanol production levels off and China exports drop



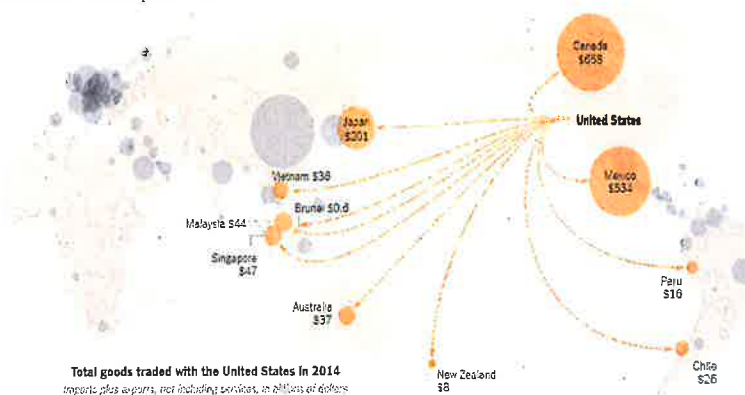
Source: USDA

* 2015 Ethanol Production and Agricultural exports to China calculated as an annualized estimate based on the percent change of year to date exports through June from the same period the year before.

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TPP area nations account for 36 % of global trade and 25% of all exports

Trans-Pacific Partnership Countries



Total goods traded with the United States in 2014
imports plus exports, not including services, in billions of dollars

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Tariff rates (%) facing exporting countries imposed by TPP countries

Tariff rates (%) facing exporting countries imposed by TPP countries

Exporting Country	Overall Tariff	Agricultural Tariff	Textiles & Apparel Tariff
United States	2.26	37	3.09
Japan	4.07	7	9.96
Mexico	2.72	19	4.54
Canada	7.77	19	8.01
Australia	2.51	13	5.57
New Zealand	3.37	7	0.75
Malaysia	0.35	1.2	3.56
Vietnam	3.51	9	7.94
China	3.74	10	10.33
Germany	2.64	10	10.89
South Korea	2.62	15	9.6

Notes: Each entry is the average tariff as a percent imposed by every TPP country.

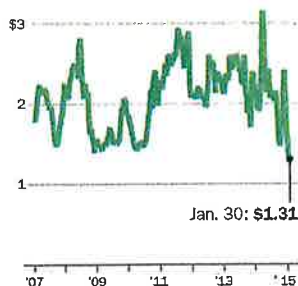
Non-TPP countries are yellow for comparison. Source: Cassey (2015)

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Bleak outlook for ethanol profits and prices

ETHANOL PRICES

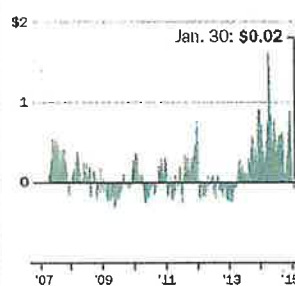
Weekly spot price at Iowa plants per gallon



SOURCE: University of Illinois

ETHANOL PROFITS

Considers all variable and fixed costs at a representative Iowa plant per gallon



TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

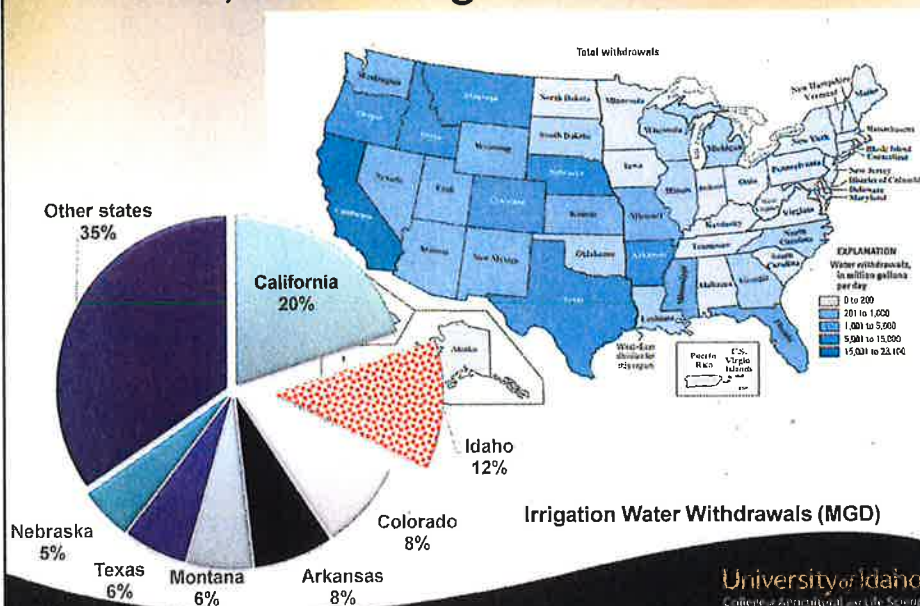
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2016 Outlook

- Net farm income: Idaho -33% (2014 -3%, 2015 -31%); US -55% (2014 -36%, 2015 -38%)
- 2016 revenue themes
 - Weak export markets
 - Strong dollar (11 year high)
 - Weak foreign economies
 - Russian embargo
 - Ethanol boom over
 - Record grain production
 - Huge stocks
- 2016 costs themes
 - Oil below \$50 a barrel
 - Low, but rising, interest rates
 - Water challenges
- Grains; prices down 10 to 15%
- Hay; feeder price low & dairy price weak
- Spuds
 - Dumping and abandonment in other states
 - 2016 acres up = downward price pressure
 - "the only crop that **could** make money"
- Beef off the highs
- Milk – back to 2010 revenues
 - \$14/cwt for 1st quarter
 - Breakeven for 2nd and 3rd

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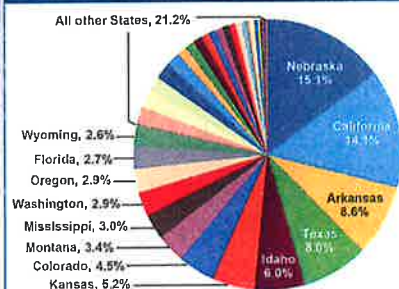
Idaho, 2nd in irrigation withdrawals



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Idaho, 5th in irrigated acres

State shares of total U.S. irrigated acres, 2012



Note: The thirteen leading States (10 Western, and Arkansas, Mississippi, and Florida) accounted for 78.6 percent of U.S. irrigated acres, including harvested cropland, pasture, and other lands (but excluding horticulture under protection).
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2012 Census of Agriculture, State data.



United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service
The views expressed are those of the author(s) and should not be attributed to the Economic Research Service or USDA.

Acres of irrigated land, 2012



National Agricultural Statistics Service, Map Atlases for the
of Agriculture

73% (41M acres) of U.S. irrigated acres are in 17 Western States

From 2007 to 2012, irrigated acres declined by 777,000 acres

Decreases OR 215,000; CA 154,000; NM 150,000; TX 521,000; CO 351,000; NE 262,000

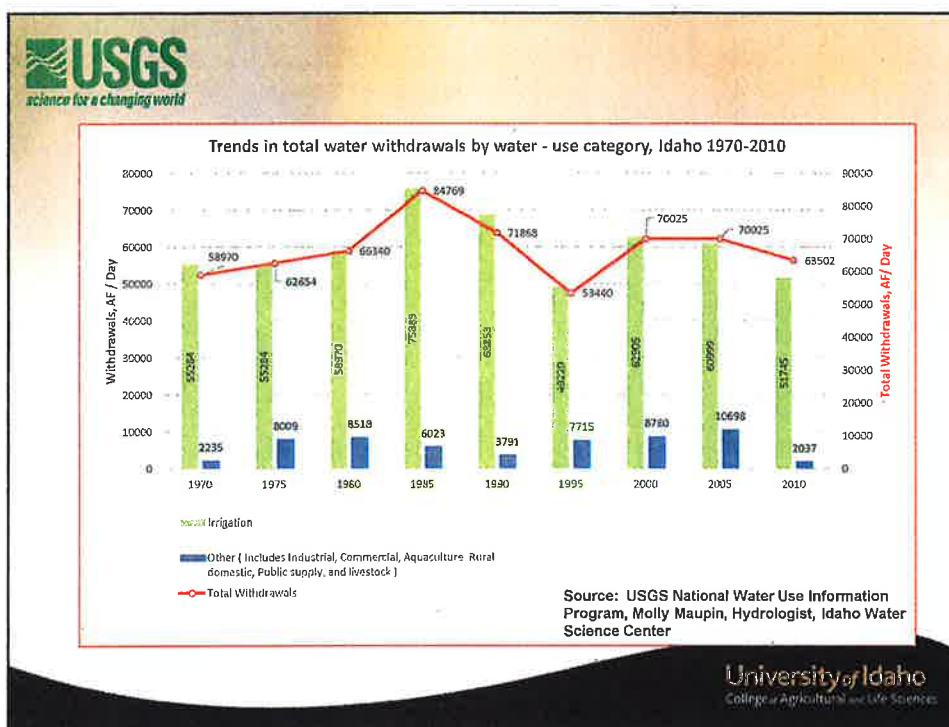
3 of top crop production value are NOT California

6 of top irrigated counties are Idaho

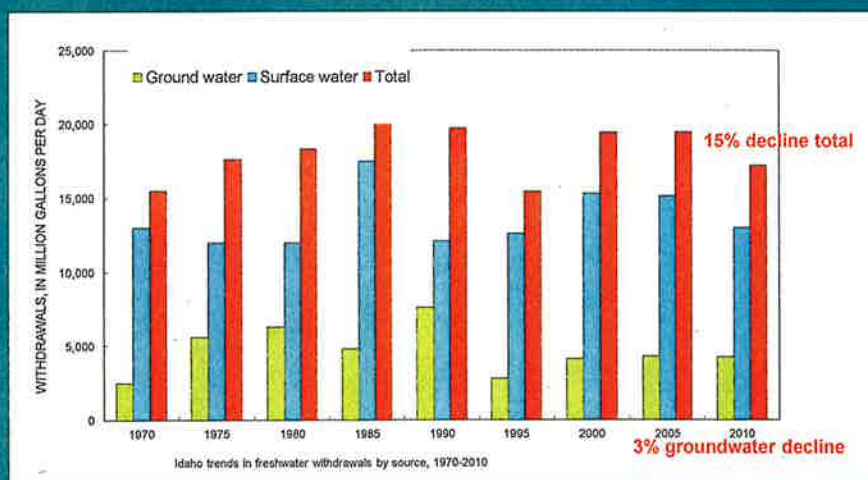
Crop Production Value		Irrigation Water Volume	
Top Counties	Crop Production (\$Million)	Top Counties	Water Use (1,000 AF)
1 Fresno CA	\$3,700	1 Fresno CA	2,788
2 Kern CA	\$3,232	2 Tulare CA	2,752
3 Monterey CA	\$2,935	3 Kern CA	2,014
4 Tulare CA	\$1,671	4 San Joaquin CA	1,772
5 San Joaquin CA	\$1,659	5 Stanislaus CA	1,679
6 Ventura CA	\$1,430	6 Jefferson ID	1,561
7 Grant WA	\$1,333	7 Merced CA	1,539
8 Imperial CA	\$1,310	8 Kings CA	1,402
9 Merced CA	\$1,273	9 Jerome ID	1,347
10 Madera CA	\$1,240	10 Yuma AZ	1,262
11 Santa Barbara CA	\$1,129	11 Imperial CA	1,218
12 Yakima WA	\$1,069	12 Pinal AZ	1,171
13 Stanislaus CA	\$1,063	13 Grant WA	1,152
14 Kings CA	\$855	14 Maricopa AZ	1,134
15 Riverside CA	\$745	15 Twin Falls ID	1,076
16 Yuma AZ	\$697	16 Bingham ID	1,056
17 San Diego CA	\$648	17 Colusa CA	928
18 San Luis Obispo CA	\$618	18 Cassia ID	894
19 Sonoma CA	\$606	19 Ada ID	839
20 Benton WA	\$582	20 Mesa CO	830

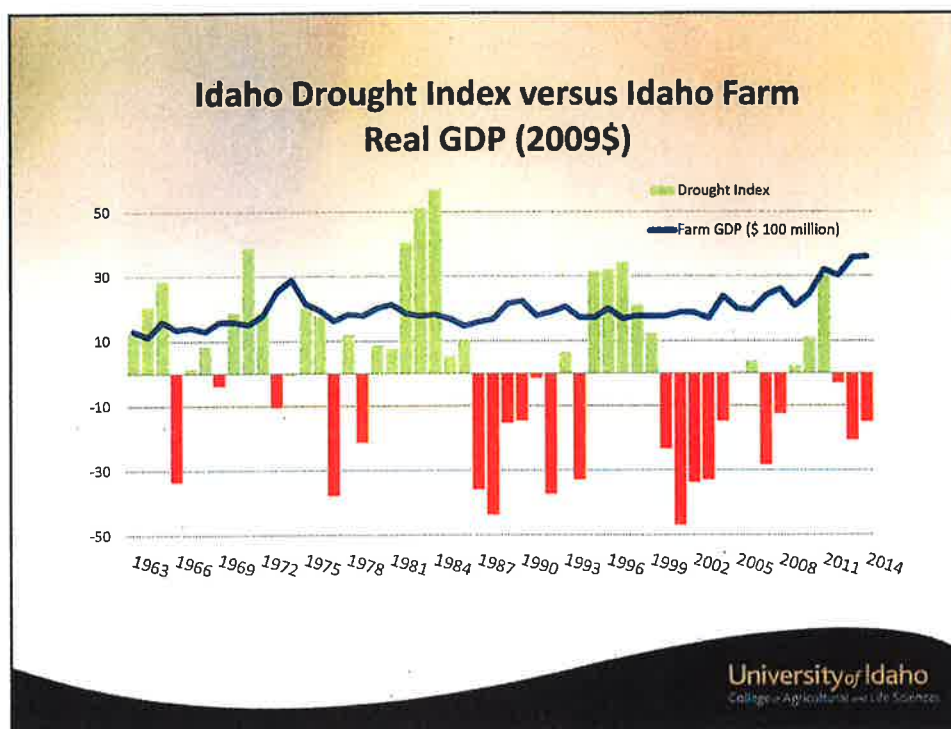
Source: WestWater Research Inc. using USGS and USDA data

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Idaho withdrawals by source, 1970-2010



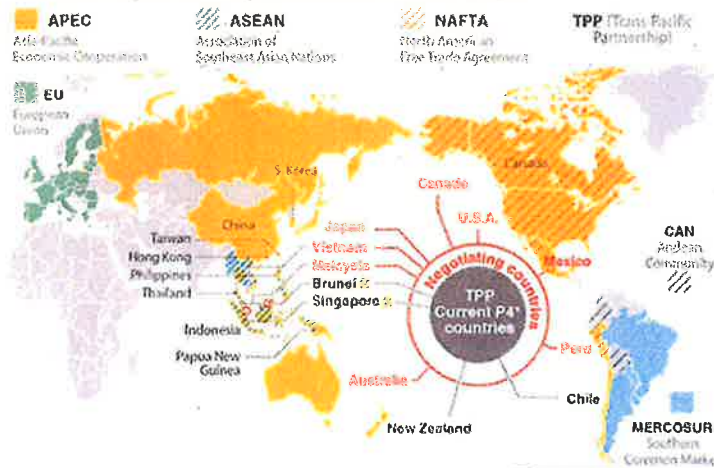


Questions?

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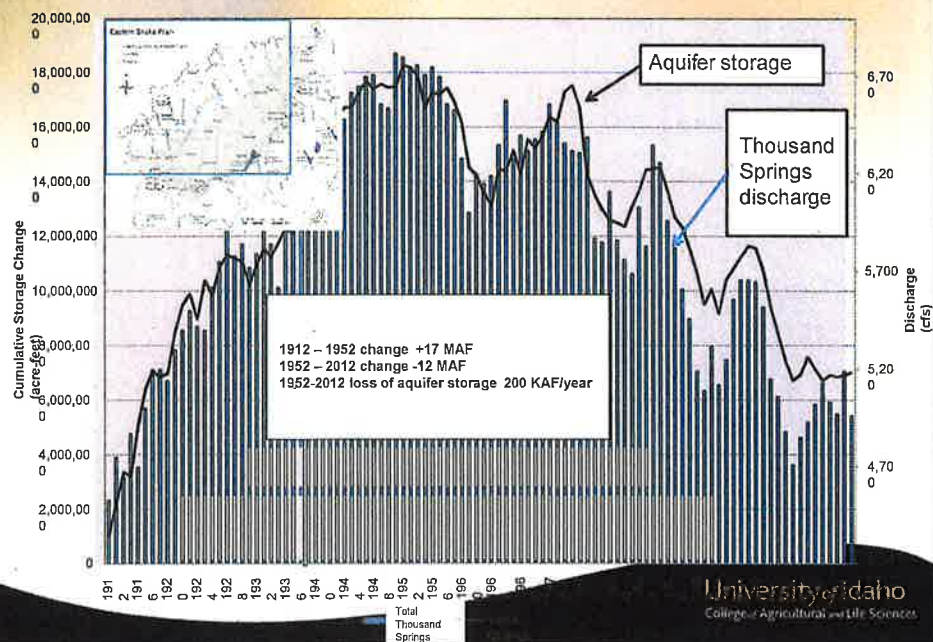
12 Countries of the TPP

TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL



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College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

Cumulative Volume Change of Water Stored Within ESPA and Thousand Springs Discharge

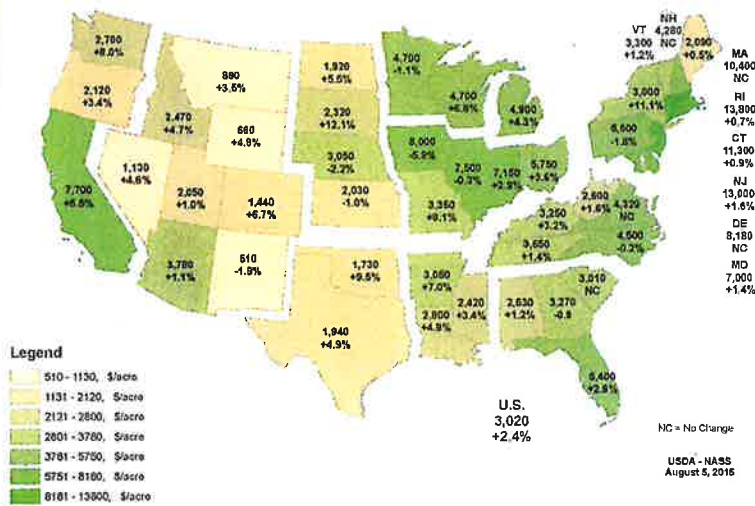


University of Idaho
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

Idaho farm real estate increases by 4.7% in 2015

2015 Farm Real Estate Value by State

Dollars per Acre and Percent Change from 2014

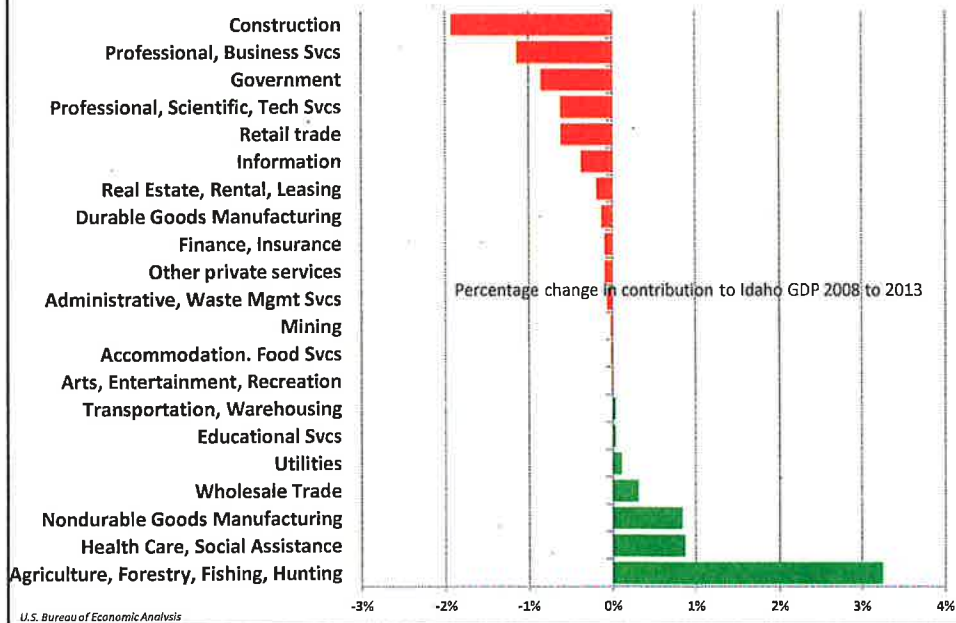


NC = No Change

USDA - NASS
August 5, 2015

University of Idaho
Cultural and Life Sciences

Agriculture is Idaho's fastest growing industry



AMENDED AGENDA #1
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M.
Room WW53
Thursday, February 04, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
RS24298	Relating to Fish and Game	Senator Siddoway
RS24189	Relating to the Idaho Dairy Products Commission	Bob Naerebout, , Executive Director
RS24071	Relating to the Animals and the Environment	Barry Burnell, Administrator
Presentation:	Idaho Horse Council	Myron Amsden, Board Member
Minutes:	Approve Minutes of January 21, 2016	Senators Patrick and Den Hartog

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Rice
Vice Chairman Bayer
Sen Patrick
Sen Souza
Sen Lee

Sen Den Hartog
Sen Harris
Sen Ward-Engelking
Sen Burgoyne

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Carol Deis
Room: WW31
Phone: 332-1330
email: sagri@senate.idaho.gov

MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 04, 2016

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rice, Vice Chairman Bayer, Senators Patrick, Souza, Lee, Den Hartog, Harris, Ward-Engelking and Burgoyne

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Rice** called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

RS 24298 **Relating to Fish and Game, Senator Siddoway** said the Department of Fish and Game and the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) agreed to provide funds to the Caine Veterinary Teaching and Research Center for research on transmission of disease between bighorn sheep and domestic sheep. There is now a proposal to move the Caine Center out of Caldwell to different facilities throughout the State. The proposal is to move the research of disease transmission between bighorn sheep and domestic sheep to the University of Idaho (UI), which has a small flock of sheep on campus. UI will work in conjunction with the University of Washington, which has nationally lead in research on this type of disease. This legislation will redirect the Idaho Department of Fish and Game money from the Caine Center to the Idaho College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for this research.

MOTION: **Senator Burgoyne** moved to print **RS 24298**. Seconded by **Senator Lee**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

RS 24189 **Relating to the Idaho Dairy Products Commission, Bob Naerebout**, Executive Director, Idaho Dairymen's Association, explained the intention of **RS 24189** is to restructure the election process for the Idaho Dairy Products Commission (IDPC) in four areas: 1) area of requirement ; 2) reducing the number for a write-in candidates from 25 to 10; 3) restructuring of the nominating committee and 4) eliminating of ex-officio board members.

Senator Harris asked if IDPC had issues with finding willing candidates to run for these commission vacancies? **Mr. Naerebout** responded that when the original legislation was written, there were 7,500 dairies in Idaho; that has decreased to about 500 dairies. These dairies have to be paying into the assessment in order to serve on IDPC. **Senator Harris** asked are there term limits? **Mr. Naerebout** answered the commissioners serve a three-year term.

MOTION: **Senator Den Hartog** moved to print **RS 24189**. Seconded by **Vice Chairman Bayer**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

RS 24071 **Relating to the Animals and the Environment, Barry Burnell**, Water Quality Division Administrator, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), said this bill proposes to amend the Beef Cattle Environmental Control Act (BCECA) and the Dairy Environmental Control Act (DECA). The proposed legislation is necessary for Idaho to submit an application to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requesting authorization to implement a state National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program application.

Idaho Code § 39-175C directed the (DEQ) to submit a complete application, consistent with the requirements of the Clean Water Act (CWA) by September 1, 2016. The application will request authorization for what will be known as the Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (IPDES) program. This proposed legislation ensures that DEQ has the authority required by the CWA for IPDES regulation of dairy and beef cattle operations.

To the extent any dairy farms or beef cattle animal feeding operations are regulated by EPA under the CWA discharge program, those facilities would instead be regulated by DEQ under an approved IPDES program. Although the IPDES program will be partially supported by permit fees, no fees will be imposed for dairy farms or beef cattle animal feeding operations. Therefore, the costs to such facilities should not increase under the proposed legislation. There will be costs to the State of Idaho to implement this aspect of the IPDES program. DEQ anticipates an annual cost to maintain a Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) permit to be \$4,500 per year based on current conditions with zero facilities permitted or \$40,000 per year if 28 facilities are permitted (this represents approximately 10 percent of the listed CAFOs in the state). These costs are built into the overall IPDES program cost estimate of \$3 million annually and 29 full-time employees. DEQ proposal to fund the program with \$2 million from the General Fund, a small amount from the federal government, money from fees paid by individual industrial permits for municipalities and funds from the storm water program. These are the three major sectors in the IPDES program.

The bill amends the BCECA in five Sections of Idaho Code (page 2-6) and The DECA in nine sections of Idaho Code. (page 6 to page 13). These proposed amendments are necessary to separate the ISDA program authorities from the CWA authorities. This is required in order for Idaho to demonstrate that DEQ would have clear authority over implementing the CWA and NPDES requirements for beef cattle and dairy confined animal feeding operations.

Both acts have language that authorized DEQ to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the ISDA. DEQ favors entering into an agreement where the existing expertise at ISDA can be used in implementing the Idaho NPDES program. (page 3, lines 40-43; page 7, lines 31-34).

The dairy changes direct the ISDA to implement programs to recognize, support and promote performance and innovation in the design, construction, operation and maintenance of Dairy Environmental Management Systems (DEMS). (page 7, lines 13-15).

The legislation proposes to revise definitions starting at the bottom of page 7 and continuing to page 10. A new section addresses Dairy Storage and Containment Facility Design and Construction on page 10. Then proposes to amend the section on Dairy Nutrient Management Plan on page 11. The legislation adds a new section on DEMS, which is presented on the bottom of page 11. Then continues by amending the inspection section on page 12. Another new section has been added on Unauthorized Discharges and Unauthorized Releases, which is on page 12. A noncompliance, enforcement and penalties section has been added on page 13. ISDA will implement the majority of this legislation minus the portion of the CWA elements that will be administered by DEQ.

Chairman Rice pointed out that currently no dairies or cattle operations require an NPDES permit. This bill will not change how the State processes the permits. That permitting would still be under the ISDA unless the operation meets the criteria of that permitting process. **Mr. Burnell** responded in the affirmative to Chairman Rice's statement.

Senator Burgoyne asked if the dairy and cattle operations will not be subject to Idaho DEQ fees; the fiscal note does indicate that there will be permit fees. The fiscal note states "while the IPDES program will be partially supported by permit fees, no fees will be imposed for dairy farms or beef cattle animal feeding operations." **Mr. Burnell** explained that the IPDES program will have one-third of the program supported by fees. The fees will come from municipalities that have discharge permits; industrial facilities that are permitted to discharge the surface waters; and storm water and facilities construction general permits/multi-sector general permits. **Senator Burgoyne** asked Mr. Burnell to link together how these three sector fees relate to the dairy and beef cattle operations. **Mr. Burnell** responded that the dairy and beef operations as a general permit are not subject to a fee. There will be no permit fee money coming from dairy and beef operations to the State of Idaho.. There are \$2 million from the State General Fund that is supporting the program. The portion of the beef and dairy confined fee operations that are covered by the program are covered by the State General Funds. The amounts that are received from municipalities, industry and from the storm water sector are meant to cover a portion of those costs. **Senator Burgoyne** stated to clarify the fiscal note in practical terms, the General Fund money and the permit fee money from the municipalities, industrial facilities and the storm water sector will be aggregated and whatever the cost is it will come out of those monies. There will be some undetermined mix of General Fund and fee money to pay the \$40,000.

Chairman Rice remarked that the fiscal note is incomplete in this bill adjustment. Last week they met with DEQ to adjust the note, and the changes have not been made as of this hearing. There is some confusion between primacy IPDES permits in general, (which do have a cost), and the General Fund and municipalities, industrial facilities and storm water funds aggregate (which would have no cost). The additional language that needs to be added to the fiscal note is: "The anticipated annual cost is \$4,500 per year based on current conditions with zero facilities permitted or \$40,000 per year if 28 facilities are permitted. This represents 10 percent of the listed CAFOs in the State." If a point is reached that 28 CAFOs were needed to be permitted, that cost goes up to \$40,000. These costs are built into the overall IPDES program cost estimate of \$3 million annually and 29 full-time employees. The bill shifts the working partnership from ISDA and the EPA to one between ISDA and the DEQ.

MOTION: **Vice Chairman Bayer** moved to print **RS 24071** with the corrected fiscal impact note. Seconded by **Senator Lee**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PRESENTATION: **Idaho Horse Council. Myron Amsden**, Board Member, stated he was before the Committee to educate the members on the functions of the Idaho Horse Council (IHC) and to discuss the IHC Youth Fund. **Mr. Amsden** introduced Executive Director of IHC Debbie Amsden.

Ms. Amsden stated that the IHC was organized in 1975 to create a united front in representation of horse groups, individual horse owners and others involved in the horse industry. IHC has 1,500 members from 22 clubs, including the Idaho Quarter Horse Association, Idaho Thoroughbred Association, Appaloosa Horse Club, Back Country Horsemen, Idaho Dressage and Eventing Association, Farriers of Idaho Guild and the Western Riding Club,

IHC has promoted the Horse Expo exhibition for almost 30 years; the event introduces horsemen and non-horsemen to the latest clinicians, events and related gear. IHC works on legislation on a state and national level as it relates to equine health, promotion, protection of trails, racing and a multitude of horse-related issues. IHC passed the Equine Activities Immunity Act in Idaho, which protects individuals who allow others to ride on their property.

IHC provides three \$1,500 scholarships per year to three Idaho students who have been active within some area of the equine industry. **Ms. Amsden** said IHC supports the "right to ride" as the decline of open spaces dwindles with the rapid urbanization of the Treasure Valley. She said IHC members believe horses enhance the quality of life in Idaho communities.

Charlene Cooper, Director, Idaho Horse Council (IHC), stated that a census and survey has been completed by the University of Idaho's College of Agriculture, Social Science Research Unit (see attachment 1). The historical horse racing funds will be directed to youth horsemanship activities such as equine care, sports and safety. The education of the youth in equine activities is the future for the Idaho horse industry.

Myron Amsden explained that when the historical horse racing legislation was drafted, it added the IHC youth funds in the legislation but left out language for the funds to be released to IHC. These funds will be used to educate the youth through the equestrian clubs/organizations within the Treasure Valley, such as: 1) Ride for Joy; 2) 4H; 3) Pony Club. **Mr. Amsden** said that the youth today lack safety in their equine activities. This money would allow the IHC to educate the public on how to purchase a horse, the cost of owning and showing an equine, what kind of facilities they would need, horse safety and care. This will require the IHC to use arenas, club houses, clinicians, veterinarians, feed suppliers and farriers, to name a few. **Mr. Amsden** spoke to the youth that have become productive citizens through the youth equestrian events and competitions in which they have participated.

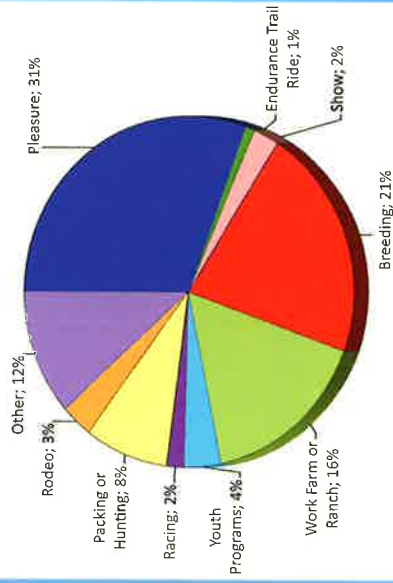
MINUTES
APPROVAL: **Senator Patrick** moved to approve the Minutes of January 21, 2016. Seconded by **Senator Den Hartog**. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, **Chairman Rice** adjourned the meeting at 8:47 a.m.

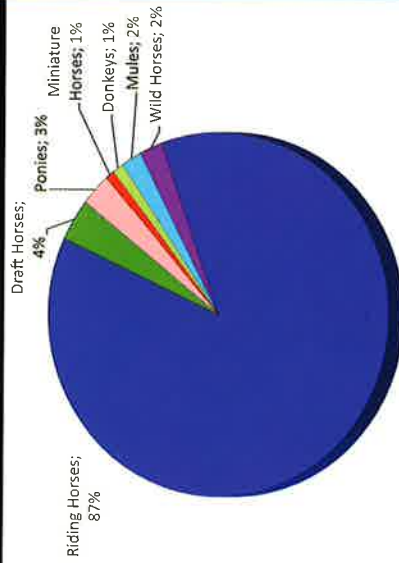
Senator Rice
Chair

Carol Deis
Secretary

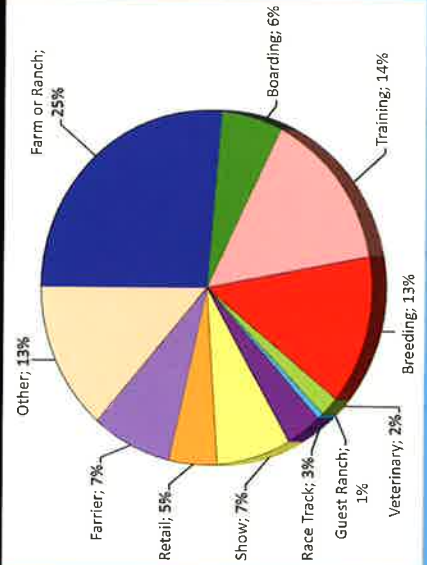
Primary Uses of Equine in Idaho



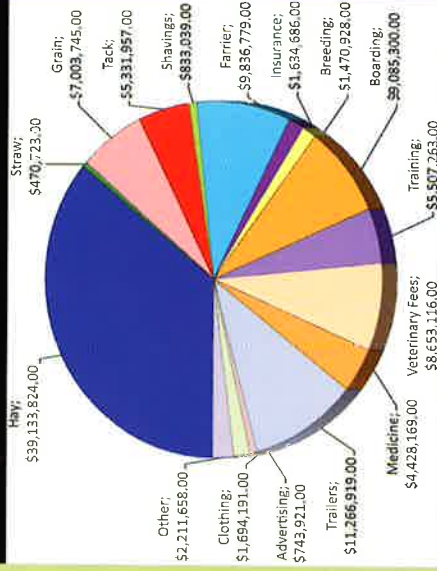
Types of Equine in Idaho



Other Equine-Related Activities in Which Owners Participate



Annual Total Expenditures Related to Equine Ownership in Idaho



AMENDED AGENDA #1
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M.
Room WW53
Tuesday, February 09, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
Minutes :	Approve Minutes of January 26, 2016	Senators Souza and Ward-Engelking
Gubernatorial Appointment:	Appointment of Glen Gier of Twin Falls, Idaho to the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission to serve a term commencing August 4, 2015 and expiring July 1, 2020	
S 1259	Relating to the Idaho Dairy Products Commission	Bob Naerebout, Executive Director
Presentation:	Idaho Potato Commission	Frank Muir, President/CEO
Presentation:	Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission	Teri Murrison, Administrator

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Rice
Vice Chairman Bayer
Sen Patrick
Sen Souza
Sen Lee

Sen Den Hartog
Sen Harris
Sen Ward-Engelking
Sen Burgoyne

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Carol Deis
Room: WW31
Phone: 332-1330
email: sagri@senate.idaho.gov

MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 09, 2016

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rice, Vice Chairman Bayer, Senators Patrick, Souza, Lee, Den Hartog, Harris, Ward-Engelking and Burgoyne

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Rice** called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Souza** moved to approve the minutes of January 26, 2016. **Senator Ward-Engelking** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT: Appointment of **Glen Gier** of Twin Falls, to the Idaho State Soil and Water Conservation Commission (ISCC) to serve a term commencing August 4, 2015, and expiring July 1, 2020. **Mr. Gier** discussed his experience on the family farm from 1965 to 2007. During those years they ranched sheep and cattle and grew alfalfa, malt barley, beans and sugar snap peas. Presently, he is working as a field man for Gentec, Inc., contracting beans. From this experience he believes he can pass on information about conservation. **Mr. Gier** believes that through this appointment to ISCC he will be able to assist farmers with conservation measures that will allow farmers to take care of the ground and leave it in better condition than when they started farming. **Senator Patrick** stated that they were neighbors and have had the same history.

S 1259 **Relating to the Idaho Dairymen' Products Commission.** **Bob Naerebout**, Executive Director, Idaho Dairymen's Association, stated the bill before the Committee updates the election process for the Idaho Dairy Products Commission (IDPC). The new language reflects the changing dynamics of Idaho dairy farming by adjusting the IDPC's election process to mirror the shrinking number of qualified candidates. The original law was established in 1969 with three districts. There are three commissioners in each district that serve a three-year term. In 1970 there were 8,500 dairies; in 2015 there are 500 dairies. Therefore, the pool of qualified candidates to fill the commissioner positions has shrunk. One of the ways the IDPC has tried to address the shrinking pool of candidates was to create an ambassador program. This program brings in a producer who serves alongside a board member for a full year. Through this mentoring process, the producer becomes familiar with the duties of a commissioner, and a new pool of candidates is developed.

There are six changes in this legislation: 1) eliminate the dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences of the University of Idaho (UI) and a representative of the Idaho Milk Processors Association from being ex officio members; 2) nominating committee shall consist of one current commissioner from each district; 3) reduce the requirement for running three qualified candidates for each position to at least one and not more than three; 4) nominate by petition, reducing the signatures from the district to ten. 5) nominees nominated by the commission shall be presented to the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) no later than May 1. 6) The ballots will be mailed by the IDPC instead of the ISDA.

Senator Burgoyne asked for clarification on lines 19 to 22, which relate to participation by university representatives. Was there a time when the UI was much more involved in the IDPC than it is today. Why has that changed? **Mr. Naerebout** replied that from 2002 to present, the involvement of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences has depended on the interest of the dean. When there is no specific function and role as an ex officio board member, the interest to participate is marginal. The IDPC now works with many universities within and outside of Idaho, so the bill reflects an update to current business practices. **Senator Burgoyne** said that the UI has an extensive extension and research program that is oriented and designed to support innovation in agriculture. Is the dairy industry receiving the level of support from the UI that they need and is it consistent with the history of the UI in relation to the industry. **Mr. Naerebout** answered yes, but it depends on the portion of the industry that has the focus, and that depends on the segment of the industry where the universities expertise can be applied.

Senator Souza stated she had missed the number of dairies and the number of cows. **Mr. Naerebout** responded that in 1970 there were 8,500 dairy operations with 144,000 cows. Today there are 500 dairy operations with 563,000 cows. **Senator Souza** questioned the drastic drop in the number of dairies. Will the changes in this legislation protect the smaller dairy's representation on the IDPC. **Mr. Naerebout** clarified that they are taking care of the smaller dairy representation through the bill. The number of dairy operations in Twin Falls has 54 percent of the State dairy operations and 72 percent of the cows; they have three representatives. Eastern Idaho has 23 percent of the dairies with only 6 percent of the cows; they have three representatives. By doing away with the IDPC's structure geographically, the smaller dairies will have the same input as the larger dairies. What impacts the small milk producers impacts the whole industry. The purpose of the IDPC is to protect and promote the dairy industry.

Paul McKay, lobbyist for Milk Producers of Idaho, spoke in support of this legislation.

Senator Burgoyne asked if there is any concern that the smaller dairy operations could become underrepresented if the Committee passes this legislation? **Mr. McKay** replied that Brent Olmstead was more qualified to answer the question. **Brent Olmstead**, representing Milk Producers of Idaho, indicated that the number of smaller dairies in eastern Idaho will be represented with just as many representatives as the bigger dairies in Twin Falls. There is a cultural aspect within the industry that must be understood. Everyone looks out for their neighbor; the producers are a very traditional agricultural industry. What impacts a 50-head dairy impacts a 5,000-head dairy.

MOTION: **Senator Den Hartog** moved to send **S 1259** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Harris** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PRESENTATION: **Idaho Potato Commission. Frank Muir**, President/CEO, directed the Committee's attention to their annual report for fiscal year 2015. On page 23 the first two columns are budgeted amounts for revenue and expenditures and the third column is the actual expenditure. The Idaho Potato Commission (IPC) generated \$730,000 more in revenue versus the budget and this surplus was driven by additional acres with a higher yield. IPC had planned on decreasing their reserve of \$500,000 in 2015. The IPC generated \$358,000 additional dollars in revenue versus the budget. On the expenditure line they spent \$92,000 over the budget; because of the \$358,000 incremental revenue, they generated \$265,000 more in total revenue after expenditures that went back into the reserve.

Their budget for 2016 is estimated at 324,000 acres harvested, which would result in \$14 million in farm gate revenue expected from the potato tax. IPC's plan is to take \$636,000 from the reserve to keep the budget at \$15 million, which is equal to last year's spending (both total revenue and expenditures).

Senator Patrick questioned the repairs and maintenance line item, which was \$47,000. What does the IPC have to repair and maintain? **Mr. Muir** responded that this budget item is a catch-all. It is the replacement of a server, computer equipment and office repairs.

PRESENTATION: Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Teri Murrison, Administrator, commenced her presentation with a brief history stating that Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission (ISCC) was formed in 1939. Its initial responsibility was to steward projects with soil loss; their responsibilities have expanded and they are now assisting in water quality matters. ISCC's main focus is to help agriculture comply with regulations and requirements.

Chapter 27, Title 22, Idaho Code, enacted in 1939, provided for the formation of local conservation districts and established the ISCC and districts as Idaho's primary entities to make voluntary conservation improvements. The ISCC's responsibilities have expanded to include programs and projects that benefit soil, water, air, plants and animals. They help private landowners take care of and improve agricultural production and natural resources. They promote cooperative and collaborative efforts by local individuals who know and work the land. General Fund support enables Idaho to address the State's nonpoint source water quality improvement objective to improve natural resources and habitat.

The ISCC focuses on three core functions: 1) provide districts with technical and other support services; 2) offer non-regulatory and science-based programs to promote voluntary conservation; and 3) administration and operations. ISCC supports 50 local conservation districts, providing specialized technical assistance such as planning, engineering, watershed assessments and other projects. ISCC allocates General Fund, trustee and benefit dollars directly to districts; \$1.25 million was allocated in 2015. ISCC is only able to provide half of the technical assistance that is requested by districts. They provide incentive-based and general conservation programs and services as assigned by the Legislature.

There Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) assists to conserve water usage on marginal farm ground in the eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer. Participating landowners receive \$130 per acre from USDA Farm Service in exchange for not farming those lands. Last year 155 CREP contracts were signed in this region, enrolling 16,500 acres and saving more than 66,000 acre-feet of water. Another conservation program that they operate is the Nitrate Priority Area ground water program. Last year that program treated 40,000 acres, reducing nitrates by 138,000 pounds, phosphorous by 28,000 pounds and sediment by 144,000 pounds. ISCC assists the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in preparing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) implementation plans that strategically reduce agriculturally generated pollutants in Idaho's impaired surface waters to meet requirements of the Clean Water Act.

Ms. Murrison reminded the Committee that last year when she presented, ISCC had commenced a project to restore Whiskey Creek near Grace, Idaho. She was excited to be able to report that this restoration project had been completed. In the closing of ISCC's presentation, the Committee was shown a video of that collaboration and restoration project.

Senator Harris asked for an update on the ISCC's involvement in preventing the spread of quagga mussels? **Ms. Murrison** explained the conservation districts at the southern border of the state have been actively contracting this project and working with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) to operate boat inspection stations. The ISCC has not involved their technical staff in this effort but has allowed the districts to take the lead. **Chairman Rice** pointed out that the Bear River flows through three states and questioned if there was a collaborative effort with Utah and Wyoming on quagga and zebra mussels detection. **Ms. Murrison** explained that ISDA is taking the lead on this aquatic invasive species by contracting with local districts to do the inspections and coordinating with agencies to make sure all involved keep informed of the latest intelligence on what has been found in Utah. Her understanding from some recent correspondence from ISDA is that microscopic quagga mussels were found in Utah close to the Idaho border. In the Bear River Basin, a tristate coordinating committee has made sure that all efforts on watershed areas of importance are being addressed.

ADJOURNED:

There being no further business, **Chairman Rice** adjourned the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

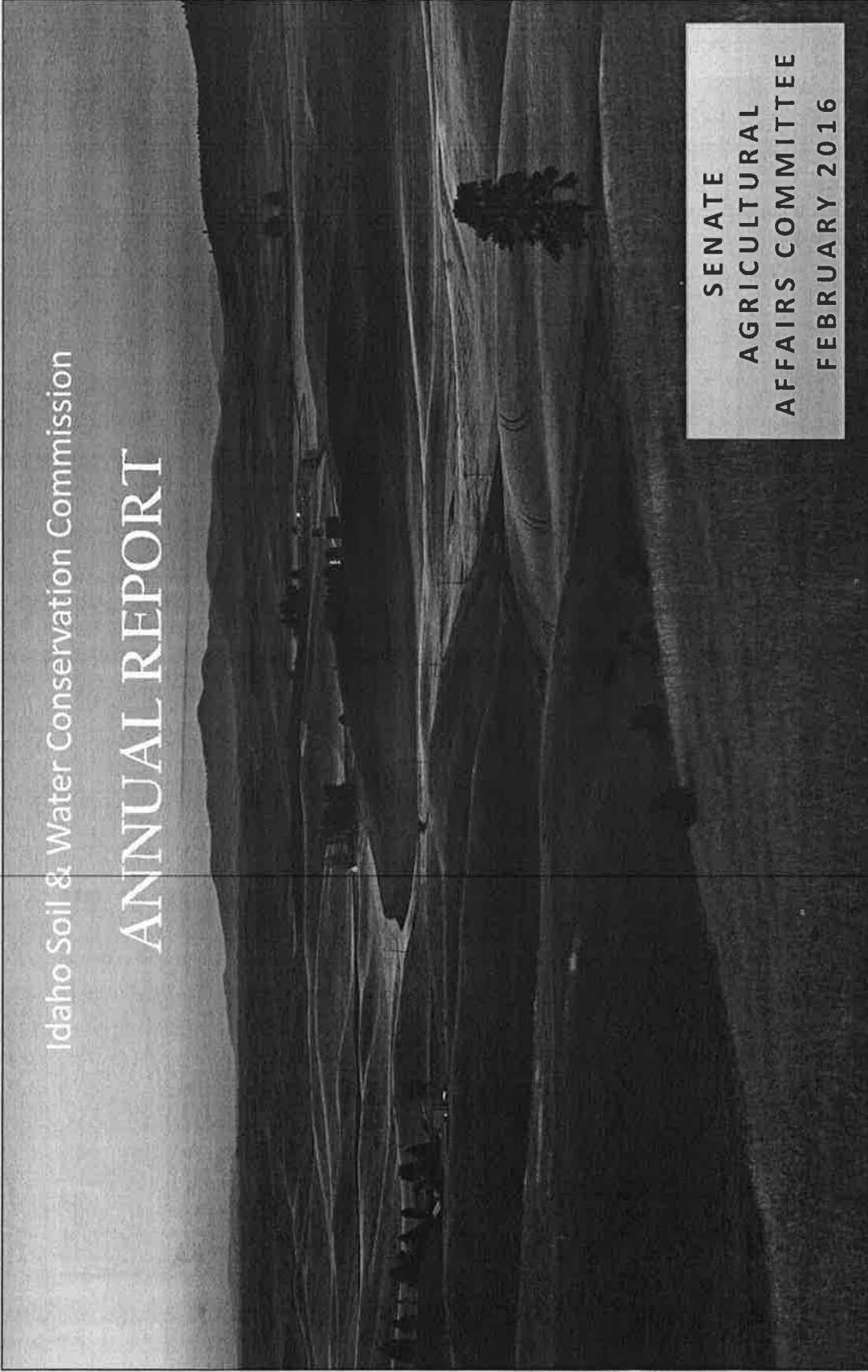
Senator Rice
Chair

Carol Deis
Secretary

established
1939

Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission

ANNUAL REPORT



SENATE
AGRICULTURAL
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 2016



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship

***A national conservation movement started with soil erosion concerns in the 30s:
Hugh Hammond Bennett, below on right.***



Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



Conservation the Idaho Way
SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

BRUSH: THINNING PROJECT CREATES SAFE ZONES, IMPROVES FOREST HEALTH


As the winter snows melt, a forest in the Boise National Forest is being transformed. A thinning project is underway, creating safer zones for firefighters and improving the overall health of the forest. The project involves removing dead and dying trees, as well as thinning out the canopy to allow more sunlight to reach the forest floor. This process is essential for maintaining the forest's resilience and ensuring its long-term sustainability.



Conservation the Idaho Way
SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

MADISON COUNTY FARMERS DIP THEIR TOES INTO NO-TILL, DIRECT-SEED FARMING AND USE OF COVER CROPS

Madison County farmers are embracing new agricultural practices to improve soil health and reduce erosion. By using no-till and direct-seed methods, they are minimizing soil disturbance and preserving beneficial soil organisms. Additionally, the use of cover crops helps to protect the soil during fallow periods and adds organic matter to the soil. These practices are part of a larger effort to promote sustainable agriculture and protect the land for future generations.

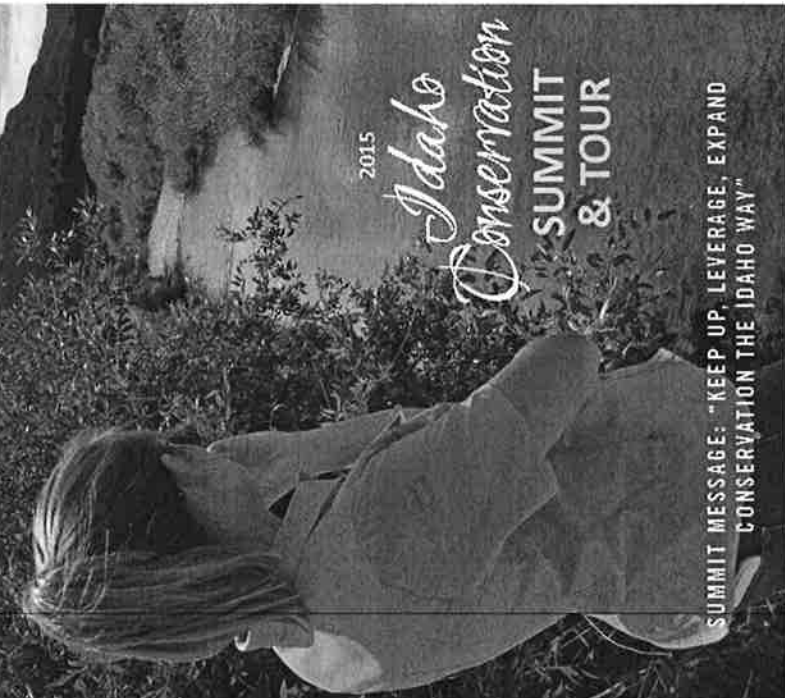


Conservation the Idaho Way
IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

2015 Idaho Conservation Summit & TOUR

SUMMIT MESSAGE: "KEEP UP, LEVERAGE, EXPAND CONSERVATION THE IDAHO WAY"

The 2015 Idaho Conservation Summit & Tour was a landmark event for the conservation community in Idaho. It brought together experts, policymakers, and the public to discuss the latest in conservation science and practice. The summit featured a series of presentations, workshops, and a tour of various conservation sites. The message of the summit was clear: conservation is a continuous effort that requires ongoing commitment and collaboration.



Conservation the Idaho Way
SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

WEISER RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BEARS THE BURDEN OF WEISER, SEAGER RIVER WATER QUALITY

The Weiser River Conservation District is working to improve water quality in the Weiser and Seager rivers. The district has implemented a series of conservation measures, including riparian zone restoration and water quality monitoring. These efforts are aimed at reducing sediment and nutrient runoff into the rivers, which can harm aquatic life and degrade water quality. The district's work is a testament to the commitment of local organizations to protecting our natural resources.



Conservation the Idaho Way
SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

LIGHTNING FIRES SPAWN IDAHO INFERNOS

Lightning fires are a major threat to Idaho's forests and wildlife. These fires can spread rapidly, consuming large areas of land and causing significant damage to the environment. However, there are ways to manage these fires and reduce their impact. By implementing fire management plans and using prescribed fires, land managers can reduce the risk of large, uncontrolled fires. These efforts are essential for protecting our forests and the wildlife that depend on them.






Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

CORE FUNCTIONS

1. Technical & Other Support Services

- Technical & capacity building assistance
- Distribute trustee and benefit funding

2. Conservation Programs

- Incentive-based
 - CREP, RCRDP
- General programs
 - TMDL, Ground Water, etc.

3. Administration

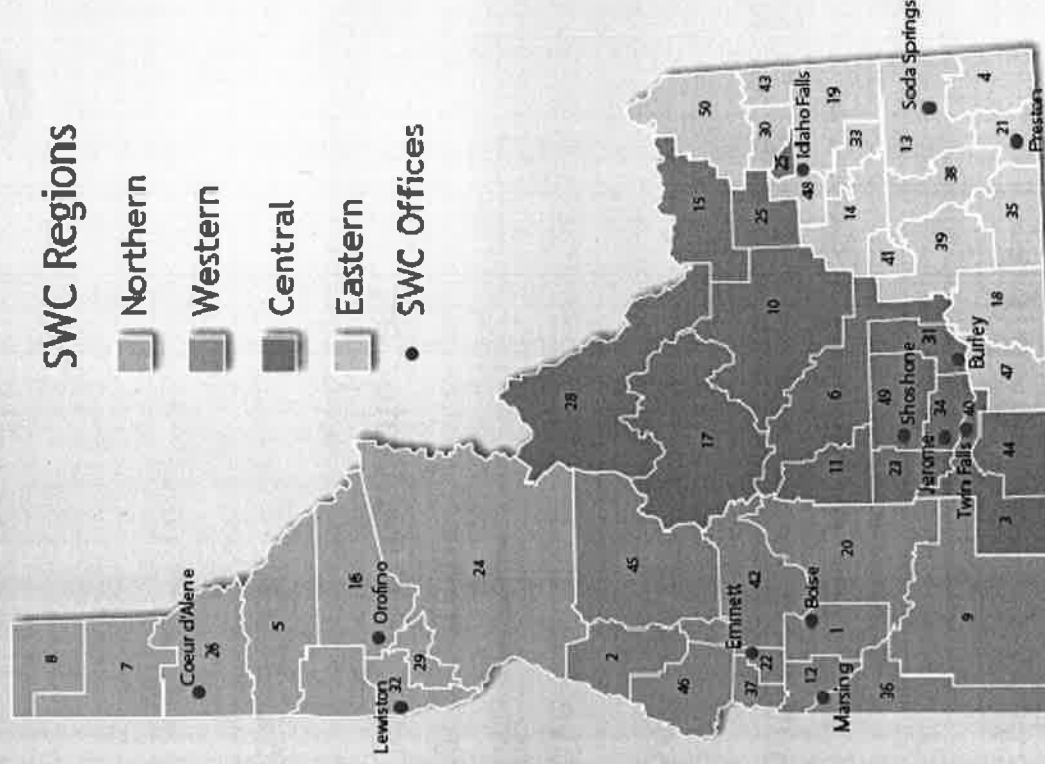
Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Ada | 17. Custer | 34. North Side |
| 2. Adams | 18. East Cassia | 35. Oneida |
| 3. Balanced Rock | 19. East Side | 36. Owyhee |
| 4. Bear Lake | 20. Elmore | 37. Payette |
| 5. Benewah | 21. Franklin | 38. Portneuf |
| 6. Blaine | 22. Gem | 39. Power |
| 7. Bonner | 23. Gooding | 40. Snake River |
| 8. Boundary | 24. Idaho | 41. South Bingham |
| 9. Bruneau River | 25. Jefferson | 42. Squaw Creek |
| 10. Butte | 26. Kootenai | 43. Teton |
| 11. Camas | 27. Latah | 44. Twin Falls |
| 12. Canyon | 28. Lemhi | 45. Valley |
| 13. Caribou | 29. Lewis | 46. Weiser River |
| 14. Central Bingham | 30. Madison | 47. West Cassia |
| 15. Clark | 31. Minidoka | 48. West Side |
| 16. Clearwater | 32. Nez Perce | 49. Wood River |
| | 33. North Bingham | 50. Yellowstone |



RCRDP LOAN PROGRAM

FY 2015

- 85 outstanding loans
- \$3,365,719
- 48 inquiries
- 20 applications rec'd
- 7 applications approved (\$392,517)
- 5 in process
- 5 denied
- 3 withdrew/no response

Celebrating 75 Years Conserving the Idaho Way

LOW INTEREST LOANS FOR IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

Sprinkler Irrigation, No-Till Drills, Fences
Livestock Feeding Operations
Solar Stock Water Pump Systems

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Terms 7-15 Years
Up to \$200,000**

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Conserving the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship

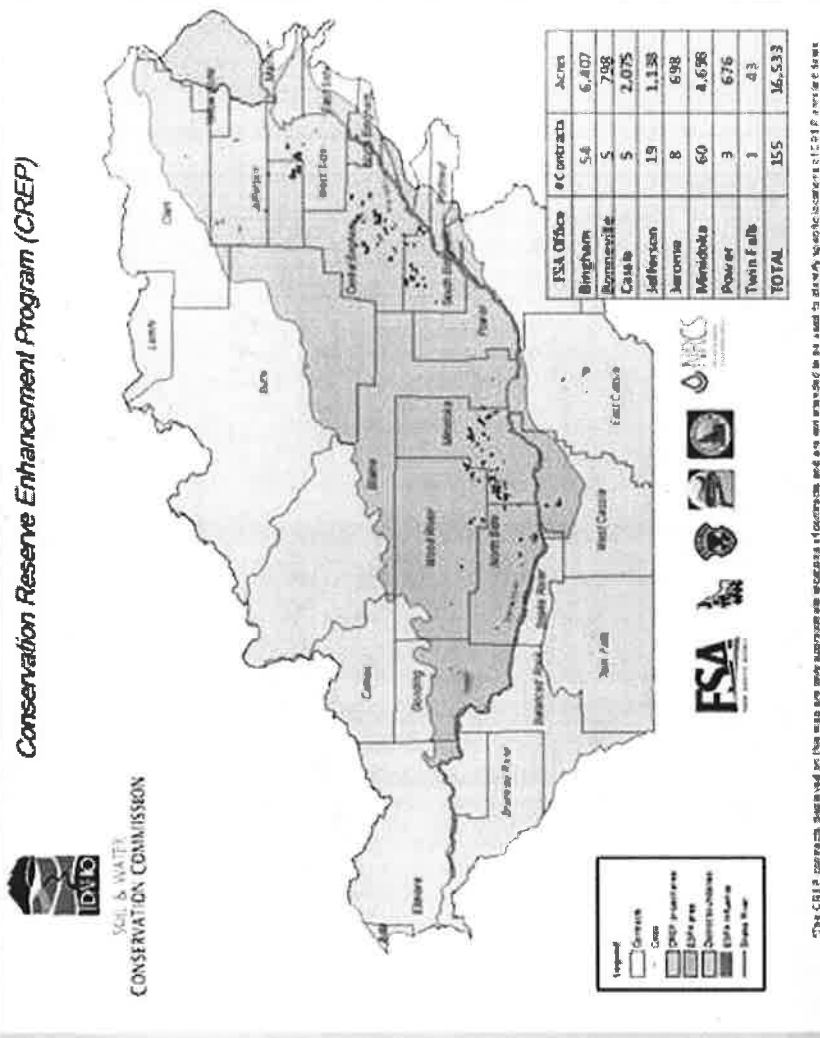


SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

CREP in FY 2015

155 Contracts, 16,533
acres enrolled
Conserving:

- ~ 66,132 AF water
equiv. ave. use for
317,000 people saved
- ~ 132,260 T soil
erosion savings
- ~ 3 to 4 million lbs.
fertilizer savings



FY 2015

Completed plans

8

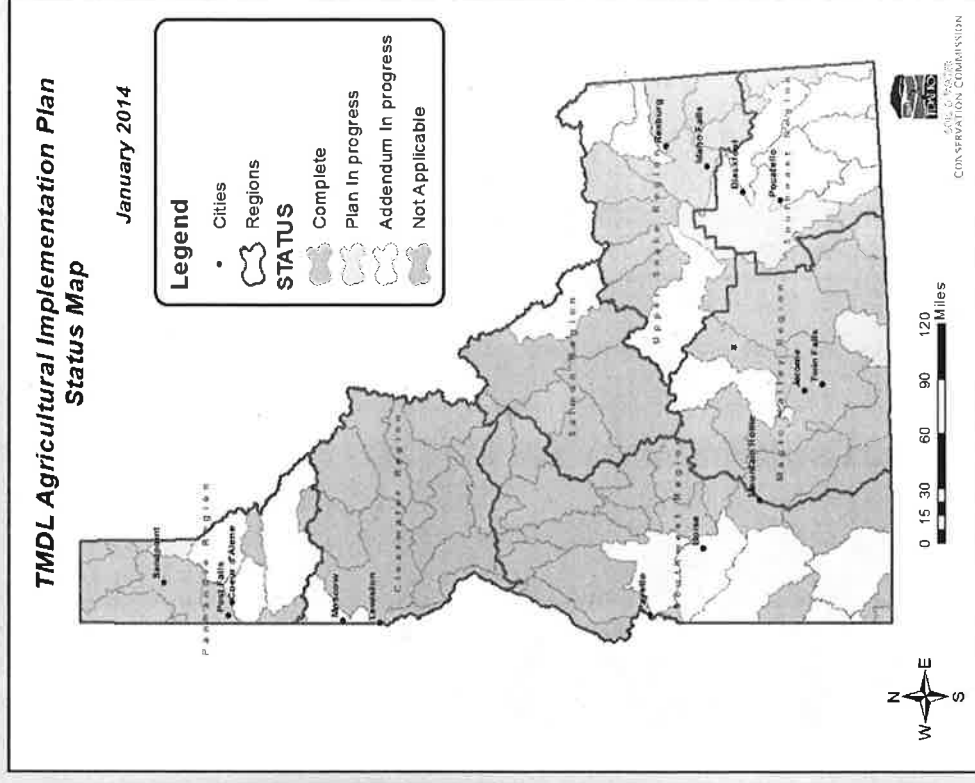
Plans in progress

16

TMDL IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

Plans pending review,
addendums

18



Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

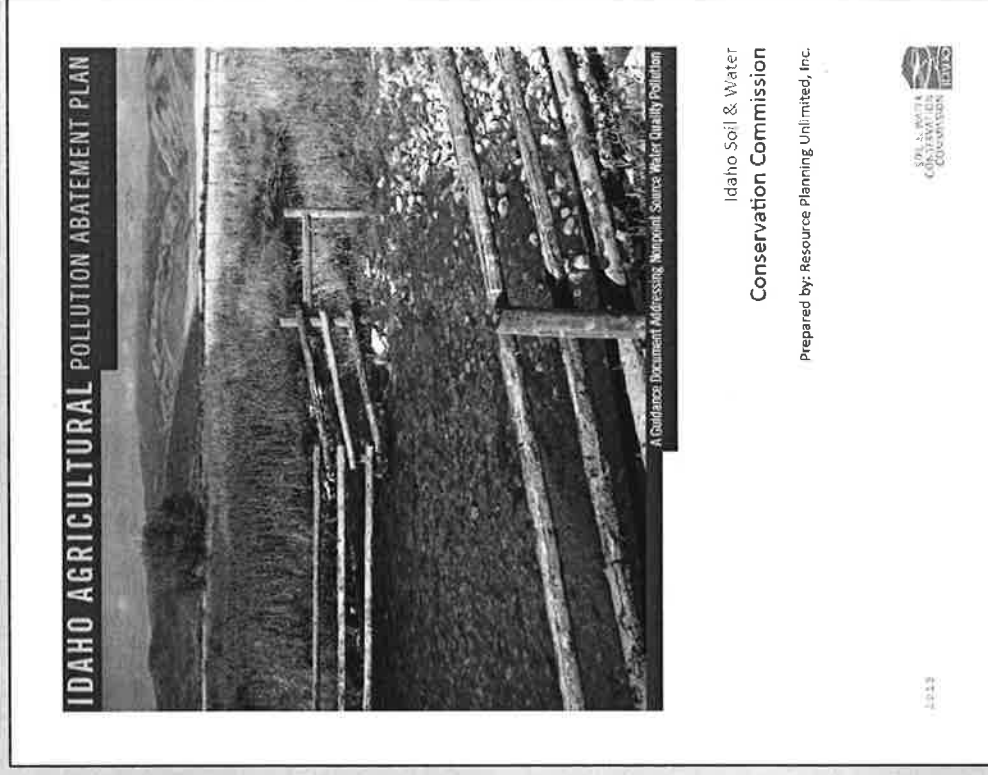
Slide #9

Senate Ag Affairs
February 2016

established
1939

AG PLAN UPDATE

19 stakeholders
certified by Governor



Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Slide # 10

Legislative District 10 Chairman Jim Rice

- Canyon SCD

established
1939

Canyon Soil Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information: Organized in 1951, the Canyon Soil Conservation District focuses on farm-related soil and water problems. Farmers receive help leveling their land, fixing ditches, installing irrigation pipelines, developing conservation cropping systems and learning to utilize crop residues for better soil and water conservation. Irrigation companies receive help upgrading their canals and diversions along the Boise River.

Mission (or function):


- Provide quality leadership, information, education, technical assistance and financial assistance for the conservation and wise use of natural resources.

FY 2015 Accomplishments:

- Conservation Technical Assistance was provided to 40 different producers on approximately 682 acres. Assistance consisted of site visits, conservation planning and system engineering for improved gravity systems, sprinklers and drip systems.
- Canyon SCD/319 project tour included best management practices, with an emphasis on soil health. There were 55 attendees.
- Participated in the 6th Annual Soil Health Symposium with 200 participants.
- The District sponsored an Environment team from Homedale who placed 1st at the 2015 Idaho Environment, making them eligible to participate in the National/International Environment.
- Canyon SCD and Ada SCD partnered to present the No-Till Organic Cover Crop and Roller Chisel Day in July, where more than 70 attendees gained valuable information.

Future Plans and Projects:

- Continue to seek more projects for Agricultural Best Management Practices for water quality improvements.
- Numerous 319 projects have been submitted for consideration, including center pivot sprinklers, wheel lines, annual drip systems and permanent drip systems.
- Partner with agencies and organizations to seek additional funding with which to address resource concerns.
- Promote natural resource conservation through outreach and education programs for youth and adults.



319 Tour Bus - Sand media filter here drip irrigation system.

FY 2015 District Funding

Fund	Amount
319 Grant Funds & TA	\$74,946
319 Landowner Match	\$10,000
Newsletter Ad	\$25,000
NRCS CTA Grant Funds	\$55,280
NRCS IPM Grant Funds	\$7,800
Don Volunteer hrs	\$25,000
Total	\$279,356

Nike Swartz-Chair
208-454-8846

Prepared by Soil and Water Conservation Commission

Canyon SCD
2200 E. Chicago St. E.
Caldwell ID 83405

Conservation the Idaho Way: Saving the Seeds of Stewardship



Legislative Districts 16, 18, 21 & 22

Vice Chair Clifford Bayer
Senator Lori Den Hartog
Senator Janie Ward-Engelking
Senator Grant Burgoyne
• Ada SWCD

Ada Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information: The Ada Soil and Water Conservation District has achieved over 60 years of successful conservation implementation and is fully engaged in meeting present day conservation needs. They work cooperatively with area farmers and ranchers and have adapted and evolved to work actively within the urban and suburban areas of the district.


Mission for Function:
Our vision is to become the leader of natural resource conservation and project implementation in Ada County.

FY 2015 Accomplishments:

- Continuing management of a 632 acre foothills conservation easement in partnership with Avimor Planted Community.
- This past spring the District received another 319 grant to help purchase a smaller 7 1/2 ft Sunflower 9312-07 drill and a roller/crimper for small acreage landowners and organic farmers. Both drills have been rented almost continuously this season. 21 producers have used the big drill and 10 landowners have used the small drill. About 1,200 acres were planted using these drills.
- Participated with informational tabletop display in the Sirogus Ag Pavilion during the Western Idaho Fair.
- Sponsored 3 high school teams to attend and participate in the Idaho Canoe Environment competition in Challis.
- Held three 5th Grade Conservation Field Days for 750 students from 12 schools. The 1st and 2nd days were held at Boise Urban Garden School for the Boys schools. The 3rd was held at Glen Edwards farm for the Kuna schools. There were

7 stations at both events, including wildlife, soils, water, elder press, wildlife, and hay.

The District received a NRCS CIG Grant for \$7,500. The project is titled "Treasure Valley Soil Health Connections". This allowed the District to hold a Demonstration Field Day at Pleasant Belly Organic Farm. Day Erskine demonstrated the small drill and the roller/crimper. Marlon Winger and James Eller, NRCS, demonstrated rain and water infiltration using the Rain Simulator. They also spoke on soil health and the use of cover crops. Jennifer Miller, NCAP, talked about pollinator plant species and how to incorporate them into a farm.



5th Grade Field Day at Glen Edwards Farm

Future Plans and Projects:
A bitterbrush planting project is scheduled for fall of 2016 on the 632 acre foothills conservation easement. We have received a \$5,000 grant from the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation to help with the purchase of the plants.

FY 2015 District Funding:

State	County	Total
Avimor Easement Management		\$60,330
No Till Drill Rental		\$44,000
SWCD RC&D Admin Assistance		\$5,000
5th Grade Field Day		\$1,700
Conservation Improvement Grant		\$7,500
Total		\$118,530

Ada SWCD
9173 W Barnes Dr.
Boise ID 83709

Prepared by Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission

Glen Edwards-Chair
208-378-5779
www.idahoswcd.org

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



Legislative District 25

Senator Jim Patrick

- Balanced Rock SWCD
- North Side SWCD
- Snake River SWCD
- Twin Falls SWCD

established
1939

Balanced Rock Soil Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information: The Balanced Rock Soil Conservation District was organized in 1961 to provide educational, technical and financial assistance to local landowners and operators, and conserve soil, water and related natural resources within the District's boundaries. Although cropland provides the majority of income for the District's landowners, the bulk of the resource base is



Snake River Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information: The Snake River Soil and Water Conservation District was organized in 1966. The District's boundaries follow the Snake River line to Flare, Irrigation-induced soil erosion is a primary resource concern.

Mission (or Function):

- Work with small landowners to reduce the potential for surface and ground water contamination.
- Help cooperators adopt more intensive nutrient and irrigation water management practices through the Twin Falls Nitrate Priority Area Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative.
- Continue to provide assistance to USDA Agricultural Research Service with the ongoing Conservation Effects Assessment Program.

FY 2015 Accomplishments:

- Sponsored a poster contest for over 195 students (theme this year was Local Heroes, your Hardworking Pollinators).
- Sponsored the Kimberly FFA Environment team.
- Sponsored a Pile Wetland Day for Hansen and Murrells 5th graders.
- Sponsored the Harrington Fork Educational day for Hansen and Murrells 3rd graders.
- Provided two full scholarships to Natural Resources Camp in Ketchum.
- Participated in the 2014 Ag Pavilion at the Twin Falls County Fair.
- Provided two \$1,500 scholarships to college students pursuing a degree in agriculture or natural resources.



Enhanced irrigation management includes sophisticated technology.

FY 2015 District Funding:	
State Funding	
County Funding	
Other (donations, tree sales, 319 grant funds etc)	
Total	

Future Plans and Projects:
Snake River SWCD
1441 Fillmore St STE A
Twin Falls ID 83301

Prepared by Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
Mett N
2016
www.idahoswcd.org

North Side Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information: The North Side Soil and Water Conservation District was organized in 1946. They assist farmers and residents with soil and water conservation and are now branching out to address other natural resources needs of Jerome County.

Mission (or Function):

- Educate the public and assist landowners in the implementation of sound land management practices, and work towards increased soil



Twin Falls Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information: The Twin Falls Soil and Water Conservation District was organized in 1951. Much of the District is irrigated or grazing land. Approximately 20,000 acres of cropland is irrigated by the Salmon River Canal Company.

Mission (or Function):

- Promote conservation practices on every acre in the district which will build a more stable and prosperous agricultural community.
- Encourage cooperation among landowners, Government agencies, private organizations, elected officials to ensure a sustainable natural resource base for present and future generations.

FY 2015 Accomplishments:

- The District completed a two year multi-species cover crop demonstration project. Through this project, multi-species cover crop mixes were planted across the Magic Valley to determine viability in a range of soil and climatic conditions. Some fields were grazed and some were not.
- Supported the approximately 215 students from three schools who participated in the 2015 post contest.
- Provided two full scholarships to Natural Resources Camp in Ketchum.
- Sponsored the Harrington Fork Educational Day for Hollister 3rd grade students.
- Participated in the Ag Pavilion at the 2015 Twin Falls County Fair.



The plot on the left was grazed in the fall of 2015, while the one on the right was not. Voles have also cover crop seedlings.

Future Plans and Projects:

- Explore opportunities to gather deep soil nitrate data throughout the Twin Falls Nitrate Priority Area. Supervisors hope to work with researchers at the ARS NW Irrigation and Soil Lab in Kimberly, as well as the University of Idaho.
- The District will celebrate its 65th anniversary in 2016, and plans are under way for a celebration that will coincide with the April water forecast meeting.

FY 2015 District Funding:	
State Funding	\$21,293
County Funding	\$5,000
Federal Grants	\$19,965
Total	\$46,258

Barry Baker
2016
www.idahoswcd.org

Prepared by Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship

Legislative District 4

Senator Mary Souza

- Kootenai-Shoshone SWCD

Kootenai-Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information: The Kootenai-Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District was formed in 1941 to assist the farmers in applying conservation practices and improving their land. Just a few years later the District was actively promoting conservation cropping systems, contour farming, crop residue use, pasture and woodland improvements, grassed waterways, farm ponds and drainage improvements.

Mission (or Function):


- Partner and lead other government agencies, private landowners and users, and the public in promoting voluntary, non-regulatory, locally-led conservation and wise stewardship of the natural resources with which our area has been so richly blessed.

PY 2015 Accomplishments:

- The District completed 250 ft of stream bank stabilization at the lower end of Mica Creek. Working with the Mica Bay Property Owners Association, a comprehensive sediment reduction plan is being developed. Notably, kokanee salmon have returned to Mica Creek and are actively spawning.
- Complete an 319 project on Wolf Lodge Creek at three separate sites. The project utilized toe rock, almost a dozen rock bars, and hundreds of willow plantings along 300 feet of streambank.
- Participated in a forestry tree sale program administered by the Idaho Forest Owners Association, selling over 51,000 seedlings.
- Received funding for an Idaho Dept of Lands grant, which will be used to complete the original proposal to assess and plan restoration in the Wolf Lodge/Bluff/Perran Creek watersheds.

Future Plans and Projects:

- The District continues to work with the Coeur d'Alene Tribes/WAG on implementing BMPs and watershed planning. This coordinated effort has led to IDEQ finding extra 319 funds to do projects in Wolf Lodge Creek.
- Outreach throughout the community to promote District programs and Western Competitive Grant project efforts.



"Moonshine the Creek Inspector" gives final approval on the Mica Creek project.

State Funding	
Idaho Water Resources Grant	\$10,330
319 grant	\$9,000
Tree Sales	\$53,054
Growers meeting Support	\$20,930
Total	\$92,400

Kootenai-Shoshone SWCD
7830 Meadows Way C-1
Coeur d'Alene ID 83815

Fran Hughes Chair
208-762-4939
www.kootenai-shoshone.org

Prepared by Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



Senator Abby Lee

- Adams SWCD
- Canyon SCD
- Payette SWCD
- Weiser River SWCD

Weiser River Soil and Water Conservation District
Fact Sheet

General information: Organized in 1966 to provide voluntary land and water conservation technical and financial assistance to landowners and users within the Adams Soil & Water Conservation District boundaries. The District supports diverse land uses

Canyon Soil Conservation Distr
Fact Sheet

General Information: Organized in 1951, the Canyon Soil Conservation District focused on farmland leveling and water problems. Farmers received technical assistance in soil conservation, irrigation practices, land, lining ditches, installing cropping systems, developing conservation easements, and learning to utilize crop insurance. The district also provides technical assistance to better soil and water conservation. Irrigation companies receive help upgrading their canals and diversions along the Rio Grande.

Mission (or Function):

- Provide quality leadership, education, technical assistance for the conservation of natural resources.

FY 2015 Accomplishments:

- Conservation Technical Assistance was provided to 40 different producers on approximately 652 acres. Assistance consisted of site visits, conservation planning and system engineering for improved gravity systems, sprinklers and drip systems.

- Only an STD/STI or subject tour included best management practices with an emphasis on soil health. There were 55 attendees.
- Participated in the 6th annual Soil Summit.

Symposium with 230 participants
The District and

Homestead sponsored an Envision team from Florida who placed it at the top.

in the Nation's history.

For more information, contact:
Canyon SCD and A&E SMD

...partnered to
present the No-Till Organic Cover Crop and
Roller Crimper Demo in 2011.

Attendees gained valuable information...

basic information.

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Prepared by Soil and Water Con

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Slide #15

Legislative District 32

Senator Mark Harris

- Bear Lake SWCD
- Caribou SCD
- East Side SWCD
- Franklin SWCD
- Oneida SWCD
- Teton SWCD

Bear Lake Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information: The Bear Lake Soil and Water Conservation District was organized in 1940. They have assisted cooperators in land leveling, rebuilding irrigation systems, drainage of semi-wet cropland and applying other soil and water conservation practices.

Mission (or Function):

- Set high standards for the natural resources in the area
- Make technical, financial

Teton Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information: The Teton Soil and Water Conservation District was organized in 1960 to

- Promoted windbreak tree and shrub sales to reduce soil and water erosion. In 2014, 462

Oneida Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

Caribou Soil Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information: The Caribou Soil Conservation District was organized in 1951 to provide educational, technical and financial assistance to local landowners and operators, and conserve soil, water and related natural resources within the District's boundaries.

Mission (or Function):

- Dedicated to promoting wise land and water use, providing information and education and giving assistance to anyone looking for ways of conserving and improving our natural resources.

FY 2015 Accomplishments:

- Completed 3 water quality projects – animal feeding operation, and installing solar panels and an off-stream watering system. The old dairy facility and day lighting Whiskey Creek. The Trout Creek SRF project removed an old dairy and outbuildings, along with stream restoration.
- The Upper Blackfoot 319 project fenced off a portion of the Blackfoot and installed a solar pumping station.
- Working on a Pebble Creek 319 project – a ditch-to-pipeline conversion and diversion consolidation.
- Sponsored poster and speech contests.
- Held a project tour and range land tour.
- Sponsorships to Natural Resources camp and Idaho Environment.
- Annual tree sale program

Future Plans and Projects:

- Continue ongoing projects.
- Sponsor annual tree sales program.

Caribou SWCD
300 E Hooper Ave
Soda Springs ID 83276

East Side SWCD
1120 Lincoln St STE A
Idaho Falls ID 83401

Prepared by Soil and Water Conservation Commission

Prepared by Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
www.idahoswcd.org/IDSWCD/FactSheets



Wide Hollow Project sediment basin



Boat Inspection and Decontamination Station

FY 2015 District Funding:

State Funding	\$30,791
County Funding	\$12,500
City Funding	\$1,500
319 and other grant funds	\$12,900
ID Dept of Ag	\$96,336
Total	\$203,107

Dillon Holder - Chair
208-766-4748

Water Conservation Commission



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Slide #16

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship

Restoring Whiskey Creek, near Grace



Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Slide # 17

Senate Ag Affairs
February 2016



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Soil and Water
Conservation
Commission

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www.swc.idaho.gov



Follow us at:
#iswccnews

established
1939

Conservation the Idaho Way

ISSUE TWENTY-NINE

IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

NOVEMBER 2015



A proud helper helps the camera to see the brush that surrounds them in the future.

BRUSH-THINNING PROJECT CREATES SAFE ZONES, IMPROVES FOREST HEALTH

By Steve Stuebner

The Bear Lake Soil & Water Conservation District posted this quote recently on its Facebook page: "Conservation is the state of harmony between man and the land." If we substitute the word "people" for "man," it seems that the district's forest-and brush-thinning projects aimed at reducing the danger around homes and private property certainly may create more harmony between property owners

and the forest that surrounds them in the future.

In a fine example of proactive cooperation between the Caribou-Targhee National Forest and the Bear Lake Soil & Water Conservation District, there are two forest-and brush-thinning projects going on in Bear Canyon that complement each other on forest service and private land. The Caribou-Targhee is treating about 230 acres in its thinning project called

"The Hollow," and the Bear Lake SWCD is treating 80 acres of land that is surrounded by the national forest project.

The Bear Lake SWCD secured two Forest Service grants totaling \$498,000 to do the thinning work. Wilcox Logging, Inc., based in Rexburg, is the contractor performing the work.

"I am very pleased with how it's going so far," said Lisa Traistum, District Manager.

Brush Thinning, cont. on Page 2



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship

Slide # 18

YOUTH EDUCATION EVENTS INSPIRE IDAHO KIDS TO LEARN, CRAFT CREATIVE SOLUTIONS TO NATURAL RESOURCE ISSUES



Students hard at work building a model of their plan for sage grouse management during the Range Skillathon at the Schwenkfelder Ranch.

By Steve Stuebner

At the first-ever Rangeland Skillathon in Cambridge, FFA teams were presented with this scenario: Greater sage grouse, a candidate for listing as an endangered species, are occupying a 200-acre pasture on a ranch. The pasture is bordered by roads and power lines. How would you enhance wildlife habitat for the sage grouse in the pasture?

Five FFA teams created a sage grouse management plan for this scenario and built a small-scale model that embodied their plan in a cardboard box.

Virginia Harness, 17, who was on the first-place team of high school juniors and seniors from the Canyon County Trailblazers FFA club, said her team received the sage grouse scenario 30 days before the Skillathon, giving them time to write a management plan. They studied the Sage Grouse Initiative web site and others to learn about sage grouse and came up with a plan.

"We knew that the biggest threat to sage grouse is fire, so we planned firebreaks around the pasture," Harness said. "The sage grouse were raising their young in

the pasture, and we assumed that we had more pastures on the ranch, so we rotated the cattle out of that pasture while the sage grouse were using it. We also tagged the top wire of the fences around the pasture to make it visible to sage grouse."

"To keep the cattle away, we placed mineral blocks in the alternative pasture to keep them there," she continued. "We placed those mineral blocks near juniper trees and power lines, because the sage grouse wouldn't want to use those areas because of predators perching there. We also saw education being an important component, so we notified the neighbors that the sage grouse were using the pasture, and posted signs around the field."

Harness' team crafted a winning management plan that mirrors the best practices used by ranchers across the West. But they had to explain their plan in a verbal presentation, with all the team members participating.

"They were all very articulate," said Neil Rimbey, a University of Idaho economist at the Caldwell Research and Extension Center who helped judge the event. "All

of the presentations were well-done and well-researched. It was difficult to pick the winners."

May is a busy month for youth education events in Idaho. The 2015 Envirothon in Challis, sponsored by the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts, attracted 18 teams, with a team from Homedale High School capturing first place under the guidance of seasoned advisor Sue Poland.

Four-hundred students participated in the Idaho State Forestry contest held in Careywood, located midway between Coeur d'Alene and Sandpoint. The Careywood Eager Beavers 4-H team swept the first-place senior team honors and first-place senior individual award, with Joseph Spencer winning a \$100 cash prize for placing first in the senior individual division, and his brother, Daniel winning the senior second prize and \$50 cash. The forestry contest is co-sponsored by the Idaho Department of Lands, Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District and the U.S. Forest Service.

Also in N. Idaho, the Lewis Soil Conservation District sponsored the Winchester Environmental Days, attended by about

Cont. on Page 2

YOUTH ED Cont. from Pg. 1



Identifying soil layers at the North Idaho Forestry Contest.

95 students. Multiple agency officials educated the kids via a nature trail by the National Park Service, canoeing by the Lewis Soil Conservation District, air quality by the NezPerce Tribe, fishing by Idaho Fish and Game, the life cycle of salmon by NRCS, fire control and forestry by IDL, and soils and geology by the Conservation commission.

At Orofino Earthday Education Days, about 160 kids participated in the two-day event by touring the Dworshak Fish Hatchery, learning about soils with the Conservation Commission, forestry with IDL, air quality, weeds and biocontrol with the NezPerce Tribe, forest fires with the Forest Service, and wildlife with the National Park Service.

CAN YOU HELP?

The Canyon County Trailblazers FFA club is trying to raise \$6,000 to cover travel expenses to attend the National Wildlife Habitat Education Program in Alabama, August 2-5, 2015.

Donations can be made at:

www.gofundme.com/IdahoWHEP

About 400 5th graders participate in the Pend Oreille Water Festival in late May. The kids go on an outdoor field trip and learn about water -- our most precious resource-- and the Clark Fork-Pend Oreille Watershed. Students learn about the dynamic world of water as they rotate through five instructional stations -- fisheries, watersheds, water quality, animal tracks and Northwest explorers.

The West Cassia and East Cassia Soil and Water Conservation Districts host the Idaho State FFA and 4-H Land & Soil Evaluation Event in the fall, with 17 FFA teams and two 4-H teams participating. Rigby FFA took first place, followed by Jerome FFA and Preston FFA. Regional contests leading up to the state competition involved 450 kids and 50 advisors.

"It's really impressive to see such a great turnout at these youth education events. These kids represent the next generation of conservation in Idaho," said Teri Murison, administrator of the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission, one of the many co-sponsors of the Envirothon. "Clearly, the students really enjoy learning about our state's natural resources with true hands-on activities. It also shows how local conservation districts are putting a lot of effort into education and outreach, with the assistance of many co-sponsors and state and federal agency professionals."

Exposing kids to natural resource issues in high school can potentially pique their interest in potential career paths, notes Kathy Weaver, a supervisor on the East Side Soil and Water Conservation District in Idaho Falls, who helped with the Idaho Envirothon event.

"Anytime we have an opportunity to give students an opportunity to interact with natural resources pros is a real plus," Weaver says. "They get some hands-on experience, and they get to experience what the real world is all about. For some, it can be a game-changer. There's that interaction



Congratulations to this year's winner of the Envirothon: Homedale High School. Back row, L-R, Alec Egurolla, Jason Buenrostro, Sue Poland (teacher). Front row, L-R, Delaney Pharis, Jennifer Bautista, and Justine Cornwell.

Cont. on Pg. 3

YOUTH ED *Cont. from Pg. 2*

with people you don't learn in a textbook." Virginia Harness agreed. "One of my team members wants to be an advisor for FFA in rangelands education and another would like to be a wildlife biologist," she said. "I know I want to work in rural areas with rural people. I still want to learn more about rangelands -- people don't realize how livestock and wildlife can co-exist."

"Our goal is to pique the students' interest in forestry and natural resource management," adds Karen Robinson, coordinator of the forestry contest for the Idaho Department of Lands. "Who knows? It could become a lifelong passion for them."

In the Envirothon, high school students had to design an urban park on top of an old landfill, complete with recreation fields, trees, playground equipment, etc. The old landfill had been "declared clean" by the EPA, but the students had to be ready to explain to a local city council and soccer moms that the park would be safe for children to use.

Sue Poland's students from Homedale High came to the event ready to discuss the issues anticipated. Each student on the team represented different sides of the issue, including the viewpoint of a concerned parent, Poland said. "They had to answer the question, how is this going to be safe for my kids?"

At the Envirothon, students went through

five stations: wildlife, soil and land use, forestry, aquatic ecology and urban forestry. The teams were tested on all five of those areas and graded accordingly. The Homedale kids' scores on those five subject areas is what carried them to the top prize, Poland said.

By winning the event, the kids earned a berth to the 2015 National Conservation Foundation Envirothon competition in Springfield, Mo., July 27-Aug. 2. Their travel expenses and registration fees will be paid by the Idaho Envirothon.

"The Envirothon is a very powerful step forward in the lives of these students, one that they will never forget, and neither will I," said Norman Wright, chairman of the Conservation Commission. "I remain in awe of not only the talent of the students participating, but also the dedication and hard work of the many volunteers that it takes to pull off an event of this magnitude. The whole event is a home run for the kids, advisors, volunteers and co-sponsors involved. It makes me really proud to be part of Conservation the Idaho Way."

By coming out on top of the Rangeland Skillathon, the Can-



Bill Love, founder of the state forestry contest and MC for this year's contest looks on from behind while winners the Careywood Eager Beavers 4-H team show off the coveted crosscut saw award. L-R, are Joseph Spencer, Daniel Spencer, Magnolia Fry, Doug Bradetich, 2015 Honorary Chair, and Ethan Spencer.

yon County Trailblazers FFA club is now in fund-raising mode to compete in the National Wildlife Habitat Education Program competition in Alabama, Aug. 2-5. The Skillathon was sponsored by the Adams County Soil & Water Conservation District, Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission, UI-Extension in Adams County and the Conservation Commission.

In the Idaho State Forestry Contest, participating teams had to research and prepare for being tested in a diversity of natural resource topics, such as plant and tree identification, soils, water quality issues, forestry tools of the trade and much more. Students attend the contest from all corners of Idaho, including Priest River, Bonners Ferry, Meridian, Boise, and Potlatch.

There were four stations that all of the students visited as part of the contest:

- Timber cruising
- Timber scaling
- Compass and pacing
- Tree identification

Students in the junior and senior divisions



Students learning basic forestry and resource management skills. Pictured above is the tree health station.

YOUTH ED Cont.. from Pg. 3

are tested in six additional areas: silviculture, soils and water quality, map reading, noxious weeds, forest insects and disease, and forestry tool identification.

Janet Benoit, advisor for the Careywood Eager Beaver 4-H Club, begins to prepare her kids for the state forestry contest in the fall. "My kids love this stuff," she said. "They really want to win!"

"We work on all the things they need to know. We go for walks in the woods and identify plants and trees. We practice using the forestry instruments. They study, and read and work at it until they get it down."

Some of the more challenging topics are

identifying different kinds of soil, and map-reading, she said.

"In the contest, they have to identify the soil layers and soil horizons," Benoit explains. "They also have to put their hand in a bucket of dirt, squish it around in their hands, and indicate if it's sandy, loamy, clay, what kind of soil it is ... that can be hard."

The winner, Joseph Spencer, is a junior who is home-schooled by his parents Vern and Amy Spencer. He's won 1st place before in the senior division, and taken 2nd place twice. The whole family is "really into forestry and environmental education," Benoit said. The Spencers raise organic produce on their farm for a business called "Vern's Veggies." Joseph's brother Daniel came in 2nd place in the senior division this year, their younger brother Ethan competed in the rookie division, and their younger sister Hannah is anxious to compete when she's old enough to do so.

"Vern helps coach all of the kids," she said. "It's all good, they really enjoy it, and they have a lot of fun."

The Careywood Eager Beavers won a traveling chrome-plated cross-cut saw for taking first place. The team is hoping to compete in the National 4-H Forestry Invitational competition in Weston, West Virginia in late July.

"I'm hoping to compete at nationals this



Learning about soil and geology at this year's Winchester Environmental Days.

year," Joseph Spencer said. "We're still talking to our team-mates to see if we can travel to nationals as a team."

Joseph's favorite part of the forestry contest is tree and plant identification, and the most challenging parts were compass and pacing, map-reading and silvaculture. Daniel Spencer said his favorite part of the contest "was the awards ceremony. I also enjoyed plant and tree identification because the other kids didn't know as much about that."

Joseph, who is a junior in high school, is interested in natural resources but he's doesn't necessarily want to be a forester as a profession. "I'm still not certain about what I want to do," he said. □

LOW INTEREST LOANS IDAHO CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing Seeds of Stewardship

AGENDA
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M.
Room WW53
Thursday, February 11, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
RS24466	Relating to Animals	Senator Rice
S 1214	Relating to Livestock	Senator Brackett
S 1258	Relating to Fish and Game	Senator Siddoway
Confirmation Vote:	Vote on the confirmation of Glen Gier of Twin Falls, Idaho to the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission	
Presentation:	Idaho Wine Commission	Moya Dolsby, Executive Director
Presentation:	USDA Farm Service Agency	Mark Samson, State Executive Director

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Rice
Vice Chairman Bayer
Sen Patrick
Sen Souza
Sen Lee

Sen Den Hartog
Sen Harris
Sen Ward-Engelking
Sen Burgoyne

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Carol Deis
Room: WW31
Phone: 332-1330
email: sagri@senate.idaho.gov

MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 11, 2016

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rice, Vice Chairman Bayer, Senators Patrick, Souza, Lee, Den Hartog, Harris, Ward-Engelking and Burgoyne

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Vice Chairman Bayer** called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

RS 24466 **Relating to Animals.** **Chairman Rice** said this legislation adds language to the animal cruelty statutes to allow judges or prosecutors the discretion to order a pre-sentence psychological evaluation. If a prosecutor requests a psychological evaluation, the judge will make a determination whether that evaluation is warranted for the case. **Chairman Rice** stated that when these extreme cases of animal cruelty come forward, there is usually an underlying mental illness issue.

Senator Lee asked does this pre-sentence psychological evaluation discretion exist in the statute? **Chairman Rice** explained that prosecutors proceed with what the statutes tell them to do. Prosecutors could currently get a psychological evaluation, but they have large caseloads and a pattern in how they handle their cases. A prosecutor would not necessarily request the evaluation, leaving it to probation and parole to determine whether it was necessary. This change will tell the courts and the prosecutors that they need to look at whether an evaluation is warranted from the outset, after a guilty plea or conviction and before sentencing. **Senator Lee** asked if the prosecutor does not request a evaluation, will the judge be able to request that evaluation. **Chairman Rice** answered that the judge can always order the evaluation. The second sentence in line 18 says if the prosecutor wants an evaluation and makes that formal request to the judge the judge has to look at the allegations and make a determination of whether the evaluation is warranted.

MOTION: **Senator Souza** moved to print **RS 24466**. **Senator Lee** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

S 1214 **Relating to Livestock.** **Senator Brackett** stated this legislation concerns animal health and disease prevention. It closes a loophole in code and rule that allows trichomoniasis test-eligible bulls to be removed from a trader lot and returned to the country for breeding purposes without the appropriate trichomoniasis testing. This will add a new section of code under Chapter 2, Title 25. Section 25-239 provides definitions for various livestock marketing activities. Section 25-240 deals with livestock removal requirements from the livestock markets. Currently these definitions and the removal requirements are found in various articles of code and rule; this legislation will consolidate them all in one code section.

Senator Brackett concluded that the bill provides traceability with a paper trail as the livestock move through various marketing channels. He believes this bill strikes a good balance between protecting animal health while not impeding commerce.

Joel Van Lith, Wendell Buying Station, trader lot, spoke in support of this legislation, stating that it will affect the trader lots, buying stations, dealer license and livestock auctions. **Mr. Van Lith** said he worked with Senator Brackett and others to draft this very straightforward bill. He believes the bill encompasses everything that must be checked for herd health and traceability.

Stan Boyd, representing the Idaho Cattle Association, spoke in support of **S 1214**. **Mr. Boyd** complimented Senator Brackett for his negotiation, mediation and hard work. This legislation spells out distinctly how each livestock marketing entity must proceed in the movement of stock within the State of Idaho.

MOTION: **Senator Harris** moved to send **S 1214** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Burgoyne** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

S 1258 **Relating to Fish and Game.** **Senator Siddoway** stated current statute in Title 36, Section 107, states that the Department of Fish and Game will allocate \$100,000 per year into the Caine Veterinary Teaching and Research Center. The University of Idaho (UI) is closing the Center at the end of year, so those monies must be reallocated. The money was used to do research on disease transmissions that are common to both wildlife and livestock. The money will be spent in accordance to agreements between the Department of Fish and Game and the University of Idaho.

Stan Boyd, representing Idaho Wool Growers Association and Idaho Cattle Association, stated that his two clients support this legislation. **Mr. Boyd** said that 15 years ago they had a brucellosis outbreak in an elk herd in eastern Idaho and that communicable disease was transmitted to domestic cattle. There is an ongoing issue of disease transmission between domestic sheep and bighorn sheep. The dedicated funds of \$100,000 were distributed to the Caine Center for the research on the transmission of disease between bighorn sheep and domestic sheep. The Caine Center is being closed and the research will be done at the University of Idaho's sheep center in collaboration with the University of Washington.

MOTION: **Senator Burgoyne** moved to send **S 1258** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Lee** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT: **Glen Gier** of Twin Falls, Idaho, was appointed to the Idaho State Soil and Water Conservation Commission to serve a term commencing August 4, 2015, and expiring July 1, 2020.

MOTION: **Senator Patrick** moved to send the Gubernatorial appointment of **Glen Gier** to the Idaho State Soil and Water Conservation Commission to the floor with recommendation that he be confirmed by the Senate. **Senator Ward-Engelking** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PRESENTATION: **Idaho Wine Commission.** **Moya Shatz Dolsby**, Executive Director, stated that the Idaho wine industry has 51 wineries; 4 cideries; 2 American Viticulture Areas (AVA's); and more than 1,300 acres. There were 225,000 cases of wine produced in 2014, 3,000 tons harvested, with a \$170 million economic impact. Skyline Vineyard is the largest winery in the State at 500 acres. The Idaho Wine Commission (IWC) is funded by the collection of a wine excise tax, an assessment, USDA grants, events and other income. The IWC budget for 2016 is \$508,000.

At present, Idaho has two AVAs. An AVA is a designated wine grape-growing region; designation requires a feasibility study, testing, and documentation

proving why the chosen area is different from other areas in the country for growing grapes. An AVA is a difficult, expensive and time-consuming process.

There are three AVA's located in Idaho: Snake River Valley AVA (8,000 square miles with 34 wineries; Eagle Hills a sub-AVA. (the first AVA that is within the borders of Idaho), which includes 50,000 acres with 1 winery); Lewis-Clark Valley AVA, partly located in Washington and in the process of approval (479 square miles and 4 wineries).

Education is a big component of the IWC, and last year they brought in a master wine expert to evaluate Idaho wines. He gave positive critiques of the Idaho-crafted wines and was very helpful to the wineries. Another event that is very educational for the vintners is the Idaho Wine Competition. IWC brings in journalists to educate people from outside the State about Idaho wines.

Senator Burgoyne asked how many cases are being produced in Idaho and how many are being shipped out of State? **Ms. Dolsby** replied that St. Chapelle is the largest winery in Idaho with production of 125,000 cases per year; approximately 30 percent is being shipped out of State.

PRESENTATION: **USDA Farm Service Agency. Mark Samson**, State Executive Director, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency of Idaho, began the presentation by introducing the County Office Committee, which is made up of farmers and ranchers in every county who are elected each year and oversee the delivery of federal programs locally.

Mr. Samson stated that the agriculture in the United State is experiencing a downturn of 30 percent from last year, but he believes the percentage to be a 10 to 11 percent reduction. What is troubling is the net farm income from 2013 is down 56 percent. This reflects low commodity and cattle prices. He said this is not a sign of a recession but of a "reset." Our farmers and the rest of the world are looking at lower prices.

This downturn comes after six years of record prices and improved balance sheets. Because farmers have healthier balance sheets, the banks are in a better position to make loans to carry the farmers' operating loans. The equipment dealers will suffer in this downturn over the next couple of years. The USDA is concerned that the strong dollar will continue to restrict exports of the crops. The established farmers will be able to ride out the storm, but newer farmers will likely struggle.

Mr. Samson then explained the Agriculture Act of 2014 in detail, which addresses commodities livestock, noninsured crop disaster assistance, dairy, revenue protection, conservation and the farm loan programs (see attachment 1).

Mr. Samson said the most controversial portions of the Agriculture Act are the Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Lost Coverage (PLC). These programs are no longer a revenue guarantee for the producers; instead they are revenue protection. The farmer chooses the price loss coverage and sets a benchmark; if the price falls below the benchmark the farmer will get paid. The ARC is based on a county average of yield and price; or ARC individual, which would be their own farm based on all the crops that are produced and if it falls below a revenue level then the farmer will get a payment. Enrolling in the PLC protects the producers against lower prices. Enrolling in the ARC guarantees producers against yield and disaster prices. Producers must come in and choose one of the programs, which is a one-time decision until 2018. The producers are dissatisfied with this section of the bill because they must predict pricing to 2018. Idaho enrollment in these programs reflects 1.5 million acres with 60 percent of the producers in the PLC and 36 percent enrolled in the ARC.

There are four conservation programs under the Agriculture Act of 2014. 1) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) where land is taken out of production for ten years. There can be no production or grazing on the property and the producer receives an annual payment, 562,000 acres in this program; 2) State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement for the Sage Grouse protection, which includes about 100,000 acres; 3) Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is for water quality. Considerable interest has been raised for this program for the opportunity to recharge the Eastern Snake River Aquifer. CREP is available in 21 counties and only 17,00 acres have been enrolled. The problem with CREP is the base payment is only \$125 per acre. CREP's purpose is to take irrigated ground out of production. There will be more emphasis on CREP as the commodity prices fall. The water users have asked to partner with USDA to increase the initial payment for the first-time enrollees. Unfortunately, the water users payments would be for only one year; 4) Highly Erodible Land Initiative.

Mr. Samson indicated that USDA has been very busy with farm loans, and for the coming year as prices fall there will be more stress on the farmer. Some banks are not as eager to lend as they were two years ago, when prices were high. Idaho has met their national goals and there are no backlogs of applications. The delinquency on direct loans is less than 2 percent; on guaranteed loans it is less than 0.79 percent. The remaining turn rate of the borrowers from 2000 portfolio is less than 18 percent. These numbers reflect that those farmers who are still in business have moved from borrowing from USDA to borrowing from a commercial lender, which is the goal of the program.

Mr. Samson concluded that the USDA Farm Service Agency investment in Idaho agriculture for 2015 was \$424 million. The microloans were \$5.2 million, which was an increase of \$3 million over 2014. Guaranteed loans are up and farm ownership loans are down. Livestock Forage Program (LFP) disaster payments jumped to \$17 million, which reflects forage damaged during the drought and the fires. Last year there were 90 applications for LFP; 580 applications have been processed so far this year. Next year that number will likely triple, to \$50 million.

Senator Burgoyne asked what the current subsidized interest rate is. **Mr. Samson** replied that for a direct operating loan the interest rates is 2.5 percent. **Senator Burgoyne** said with the subsidy running 0.75 percent, the true cost of the loan between the federal government and the agricultural sector entity would be 3.25 percent. **Mr. Samson** replied that is correct.

Senator Harris asked with the increased spending on the LFP, does USDA have any plans to use the CREP and the CRP grounds for emergency grazing? **Mr. Samson** answered that at this time they are not allowed to use the land for emergency grazing. USDA looked at CRP ground in northern Idaho, following the fires. Under the contracts they are not allowed to use the land because there was no disaster declared for the region. He believes that is the reason they rolled out the grassland reserve program. You can put grasslands in reserve, and two of the ten years they can be grazed.

Senator Patrick said that \$50,000 is the maximum loan they supply. Agriculture is very capital intensive; that sum would not be enough for a production farm.

Mr. Samson responded that the \$50,000 is a microloan only. The maximum combined guaranteed and direct loans is \$1.25 million for one entity. USDA is capable of supplying loans to more capital-intensive farm operations. The microloans are being used for individuals who want to expand small acreage. Some microloans are being used to start a goat farm, FFA youth loan to buy cattle, land or to join an interest in an entity, if your parents are farmers.

ADJOURNED:

There being no further business, **Vice Chairman Bayer** adjourned the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

Senator Rice
Chair

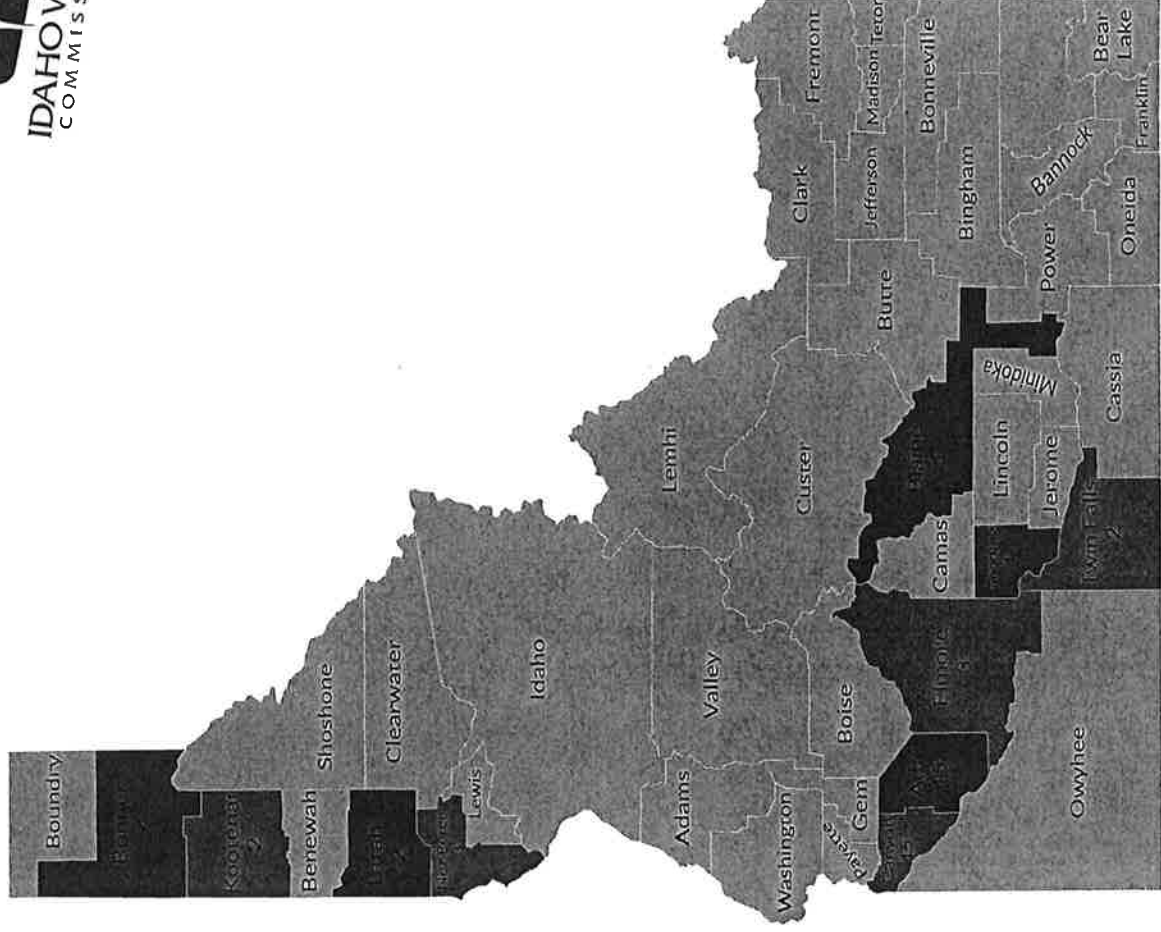
Carol Deis
Secretary



Idaho's Wine Industry

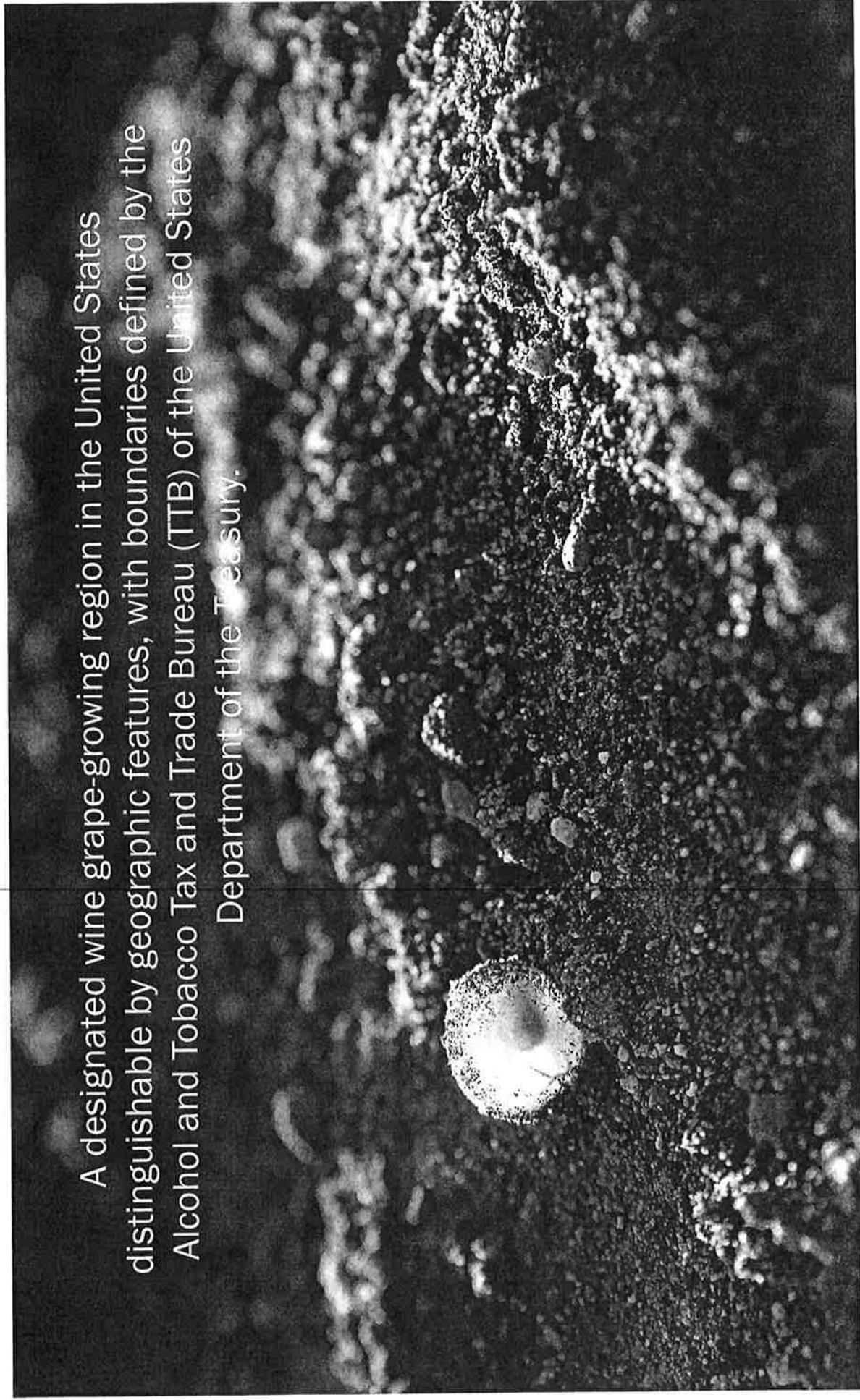
51 Wineries
4 Cideries
2 AVA's
1,300+ Acres

225,967 cases produced
2,909 Tons Harvested
\$169.3M Economic Impact



American Viticulture Area (AVA)

A designated wine grape-growing region in the United States distinguishable by geographic features, with boundaries defined by the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) of the United States Department of the Treasury.



IDAHO AVA'S

Eagle Foothills AVA

Sub AVA of Snake River Valley

Established in 2015

49,815 acres

67 vineyard acres planted

1 Winery



Lewis-Clark Valley AVA

Located in Central Idaho

Pending approval

479 square miles

80 vineyard acres planted

4 Wineries



Snake River Valley AVA

SW Idaho

Established in 2007

8,000 square miles

1,125 vineyard acres planted

34 Wineries



2014-2015 Fiscal Year

Excise Tax Income = \$255,622
Assessment Income = \$48,548
USDA Grant Income = \$88,400
Events/Other Income = \$71,608

TOTAL = 464,178

2015-2016 Year to Date

Excise Tax Income = \$139,059
Assessment Income = \$1,374
USDA Grant Income = \$87,960
Events/Other Income = \$13,143

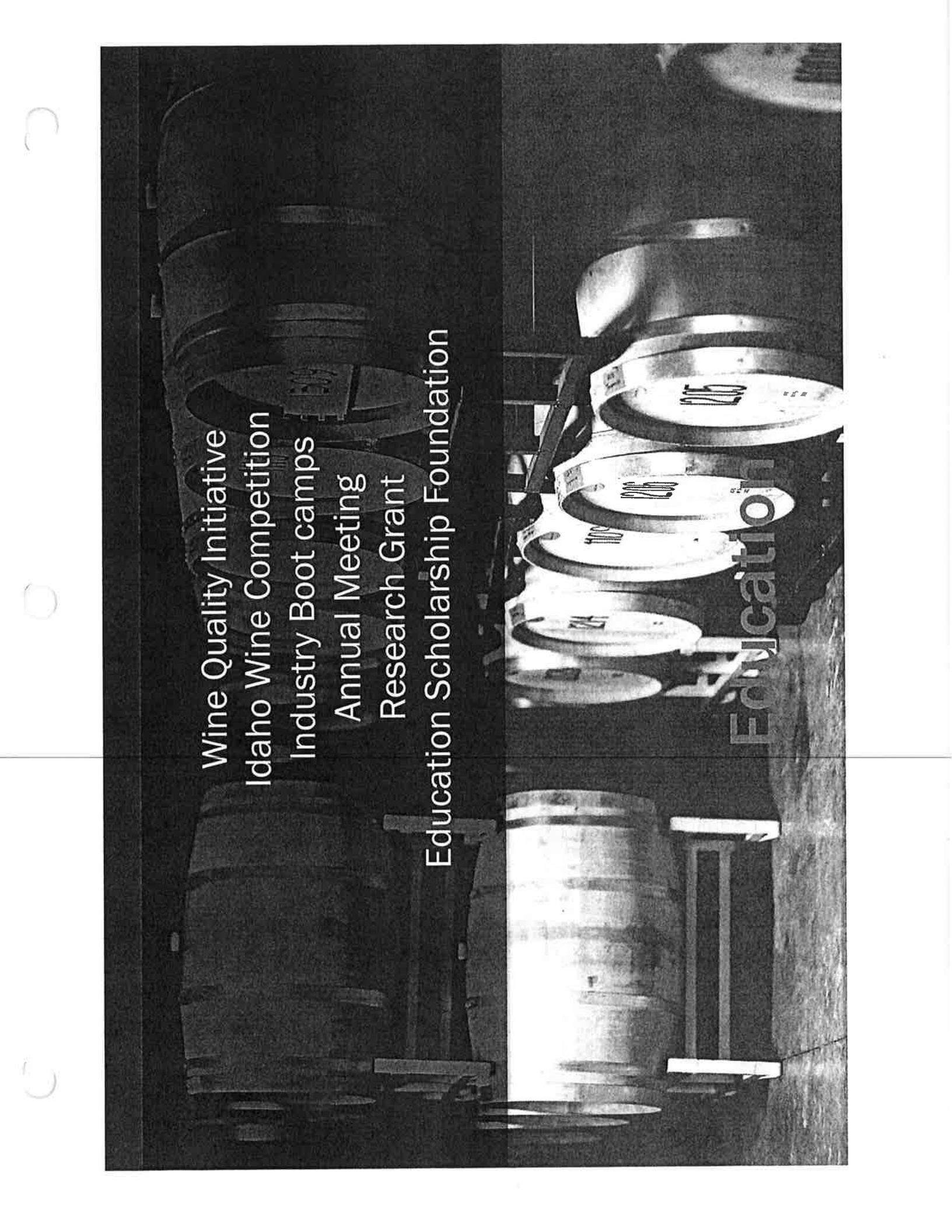
TOTAL = 241,536

Idaho Wine Commission Budget

SAVAT IDAHO



[illegible]



Wine Quality Initiative
Idaho Wine Competition
Industry Boot camps
Annual Meeting
Research Grant
Education Scholarship Foundation

Education



Best Case Scenario
Partnerships
Media Tours

Press

Assessment Structure
Minors in Tasting Room
Sponsored Events Permit

4/26/14

Good Handla

What!

Cheryl Lee

ms. W

cont

Current Legislation

9/20



**IDAHO SENATE
AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Jim Rice, Chairman**

**USDA Idaho Farm Service Agency
February 11, 2016**



**Idaho State Committee
Represent all Areas of the State**

- **Scott McLeod**, Chairman **Nezperce**
- **Amy Manning** **Pocatello**
- **Matt Gellings** **Idaho Falls**
- **Sherry Crutcher** **Duck Valley**
- **Bobbi Bodine** **Grangeville**





Farm Service Agency

Mark Samson

State Executive Director

Jeff Mitchell

Farm Program Chief

Aaron Johnson

Farm Loan Chief

Brandi Mitchell

Administrative Officer

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency



FSA County Office Committees (COC) Unique to FSA

- USDA encourages *all* eligible farmers and ranchers to participate in the county committee election process
- COC's serve 3-year terms and elections are held in December
- COC's oversee delivery of federal programs locally



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Farm Service Agency



Administrative

FTE Ceiling is stable at 135

83 employees to implement the Farm Program
Section

34 employees to implement the Farm Loan Section

Administrative costs: 3.0% of program
allocations.

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Farm Service Agency



Still located in 29 counties.
Appropriations Committees
Authorization to reduce any office to
below one FTE is required.



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US Agriculture Economy?


US – 2016 Projected Farm Income 30%



RECESSION?
NO!

RESET?
YES!

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US Agriculture Economy?

Majority of Balance Sheets are Improved

Banks are Better Positioned to Make Loans

Land Prices projected to increase 5% in 2016

Concerns:
Strong Dollar will restrict exports
New Farmer's Balance Sheets

 United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency



2015 Idaho Agriculture Economy?

Persistent Drought

Quality of Wheat for Export Market

Quality of Barley for Malting

Loss of Forage

Quality of Hay


Fires

Soda Fire

Kamiah Fire



IDAHO Agriculture Economy?

2015 Cash receipt  8% after four years of 
\$7.9 Billion in 2015 (U of I)
\$8.6 Billion in 2014 (U of I)

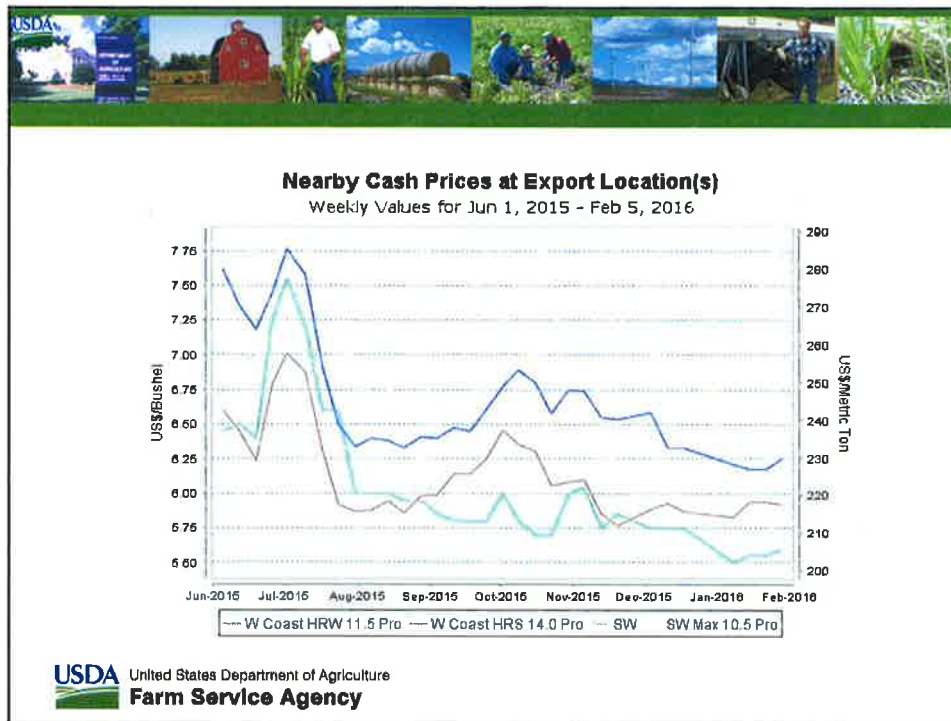
Livestock projected down 13%

Milk projected down 27%

Crops down 2% (wheat down 15%)

Potatoes will stay flat





Agriculture Act of 2014

Signed into law February 7, 2014

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Farm Service Agency



Agriculture Act of 2014

The goal of this farm bill is to allow the men and women who feed millions around the world to invest confidently in the future.

- Provides additional support to communities
- Builds on the historic gains in rural America over the past 6 years
- Supports the continued global leadership of our farmers and ranchers



Changes in the 2014 Farm Bill

Direct, Counter-cyclical and Actual Crop Revenue Election payments are eliminated

Payment Limitations are Reduced (\$125,000)

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) is Reduced (\$900,000)

Improves “safety net” for Veterans, Beginning Farmers, Ranchers and Socially Disadvantaged

Recognizes the potential of new and expanding markets for the agriculture industry





Changes in the 2014 Farm Bill

Additional support for food hubs, farmers markets and on-farm businesses

Increased reliance on Crop Insurance

Reduced Conservation Reserve Program to 24 million Acres

Tied Conservation Compliance to all programs

Increased Loan Opportunities



Agriculture Act of 2014

LIVESTOCK

NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE

DAIRY

ARC/PLC REVENUE PROTECTION

CONSERVATION

FARM LOAN PROGRAM





Agriculture Act of 2014 LIVESTOCK

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)

Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP)

All Retroactive to October 1, 2011

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Farm Service Agency



Agriculture Act of 2014 NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Those crops not insured by RMA

**Buy-up to 100% of Price
Yield Coverage 50/55/60/65%
Basic – 50% yield, 55% price**

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Farm Service Agency



Agriculture Act of 2014

NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE

\$250 admin fee per crop
(Max \$750 per county or \$1875 total per producer)
Buy-up premium based on producer yield,
acres and level selected
Maximum premium is \$6563

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Farm Service Agency



Agriculture Act of 2014

NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Underserved, Beginning Farmer or Limited Resource Producer

Admin Fee Waived
Buy-up premium is reduced 50%
Payment Limitation and AGI apply

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Agriculture Act of 2014

DAIRY

MARGIN PROTECTION PROGRAM

Risk Management Against Falling Margins
National All-Milk Price – National Average Feed Price
Catastrophic coverage at no cost
Annual Administrative Fee (\$100)
Varying Margins: \$4.00 to \$8.00 (Buy-up Fees at \$4.50)

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Farm Service Agency



Agriculture Act of 2014

DAIRY

MARGIN PROTECTION PROGRAM

December, 2014 Sign-up:
360 of 550 Enrolled (60% of Production)
December, 2015 Sign-up:
334 of 550 Enrolled (57% of Production)

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Agriculture Act of 2014

**Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC)
Price Loss Coverage (PLC)**

No longer Revenue “Guarantee”

Revenue “Protection”

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Farm Service Agency



Agriculture Act of 2014

ARC/PLC

One time opportunity:

Update yields based on 2008-12 yield history (owners)

Reallocate base to crops planted on the farm in 2009-
2012 (owners)

Choose between ARC or PLC (producers) for life of
Farm Bill

A new crop insurance option (SCO) for PLC participants

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Agriculture Act of 2014

ARC/PLC

21 Covered Commodities		
Barley	Canola	Corn
Crambe	Flaxseed	Garbanzo, Large
Garbanzo, Small	Grain Sorghum	Lentils
Mustard Seed	Oats	Peanuts
Peas, Dry	Rapeseed	Rice, Long Grain
Rice, Medium Grain	Safflowers	Sesame Seed
Soybeans	Sunflower Seed	Wheat

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Agriculture Act of 2014

ARC/PLC PAYMENT LIMITATIONS

\$125,000 per person payment limits for (ARC, PLC, LDPs and marketing loan gains) combined

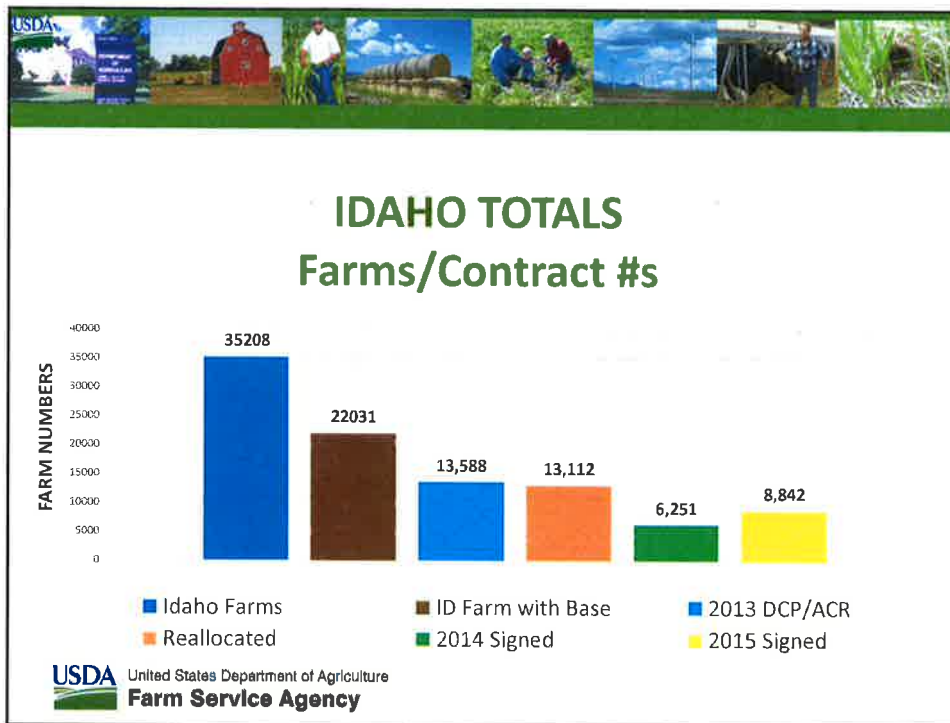
\$900,000 3 year average adjusted gross income (AGI) on commodity and conservation programs

Actively Engaged Provisions

Directs the USDA Secretary to conduct a rulemaking to define the term "significant contribution of active personal management" and determine if a limit on the number of individuals in an entity qualifying using "management" is necessary.

Potential changes will not apply to individuals or to entities that are made up solely of family members.

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Idaho Enrollment by Program

Commodity	Price Loss Coverage (PLC)		Agriculture Risk Coverage-County (ARC-CO)		Agriculture Risk Coverage-Individual (ARC-IC)		All ARC/PLC Programs	
	Farms	Base Acres	Farms	Base Acres	Farms	Base Acres	Farms	Base Acres
CANOLA	421	22038.5	17	294.03	23	1054.05	461	23,385
CORN	1,681	98416.37	1,447	102484.69	14	584.96	3,142	201,466
DRY PEAS	346	8453.54	505	20720.44	69	5819.74	920	34,994
FLAX	20	209.41	9	100.97			29	310
GRAIN SORGHUM	24	340.26	6	21.51			30	362
LENTILS	164	8881.14	453	26502.4	48	1890.53	665	37,274
LARGE CHICKPEAS	63	2911.08	257	19547.38	42	2698.25	362	25,157
MUSTARD	26	1146.94	21	399.9	3	108.6	50	1,655
OATS	1,397	16368.7	742	11565.66	29	326.6	2,168	28,261
RAPESEED	19	288.19	29	760.5	3	45	51	1,092
SAFFLOWER	31	2284.05	13	918.04			44	3,200
SMALL CHICKPEAS	30	1748.43	128	9526.02	22	1024.91	180	12,299
SOYBEANS	4	10.81	1	3.47	1	2.95	6	17
SUNFLOWERS	1	9.02	2	77.29			3	86
WHEAT	6,694	947977.16	3,414	563963.17	201	60150.1	10,309	1,572,090
% of Base Acres		60%		36%		4%		100%

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 Farm Service Agency



Agriculture Act of 2014 CONSERVATION

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE)

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

Highly Erodible Land Initiative (HELI)

Payment Limit = \$50,000; AGI < \$900,000

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Farm Service Agency



Agriculture Act of 2014 CRP

562,000 Total Acres (January, 2016)

New Sign-up ends February 26, 2016

SAFE

105,580 Acres Enrolled

11,000 Additional Acres to Enroll

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency



Agriculture Act of 2014

CREP

**State and Federal Program to Restore water to
Eastern Snake Plan Aquifer**

21 Counties Eligible

17,000 Enrolled Acres

GRASSLANDS CRP

**September 1, 2015 – November 20, 2015 Enrollment
(with continuous sign-up)**

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency



FARM LOANS

**Consistently Achieve Goals Set by
National Office**

No Backlogs of approved applications

Delinquencies on Direct Loans at 1.8%

**Delinquencies on Guaranteed Loans at
0.79%**

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency



FARM LOANS

Portfolio is turning over rapidly!

Borrowers in 2000 Portfolio:

18% Remain in 2016

Premier Lender of Choice for Beginning
Farmers, Underserved and Veterans

Lender of First Opportunity!



FARM LOANS

Guaranteed

Direct

Micro

Farm Storage Facility

Lender of First Opportunity!





FARM LOANS

Guaranteed Loans

Partner with 31 Financial Institution

Producers can work directly with lenders of choice

Assist Partner Institutions to meet regulatory requirements

Processing time is 5 days



FARM LOANS

Direct Loans

Assistance to Producers unable to obtain Guaranteed Loans

Farm Management Training is Required

Targeted at Beginning Farmers (50%),
Veterans and Underserved

Processing time is 23 days





FARM LOANS

MICROLOANS

Limit Increased to \$50,000

Streamlined Process

Annual Operating or Term Operating
Expenses and in 2016 for Farm Ownership

Excellent for Start-up Operations

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency



FARM LOANS

MICROLOANS

FILL A NEED!

Marketing and Distribution

Seed, Fertilizer, Rent, Living Expenses,

Purchase of Livestock, Equipment,

Wells and Irrigation

Farm Ownership in 2016

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency



Farm Storage Facility

Continues to expand
Funding to build or upgrade farm storage
and handling facilities.
Expanded to multiple crops but producer
managed
Family-sized farm test not a requirement
Credit test not a requirement


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Farm Service Agency



History of FSA Investment in Idaho Agriculture


Program (\$ Mill)	2013	2014	2015
Total Payments	485.8	430.0	423.8
Farm Loans	76.9	119.3	107.3
Guaranteed OL	24	34.8	37.3
Guaranteed FO	27.5	41.6	22.3
Direct OL	20.4	22.1	25.1
Direct FO	5.0	18.6	16.9
Micro DOL	0	2.0	5.2
Emergency	0	.198	.480


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Farm Service Agency



History of FSA Investment in Idaho Agriculture


Program (\$ Mill)	2013	2014	2015
Total Payments	485.8	430.0	423.8
Disaster	5.5	5.1	23.8
SURE	4.20	.008	0
ELAP	0	0	2.3
LFP	0	3.4	20.6
LIP	0	.30	.143
TAP		.012	.05
NAP	1.3	1.3	.70

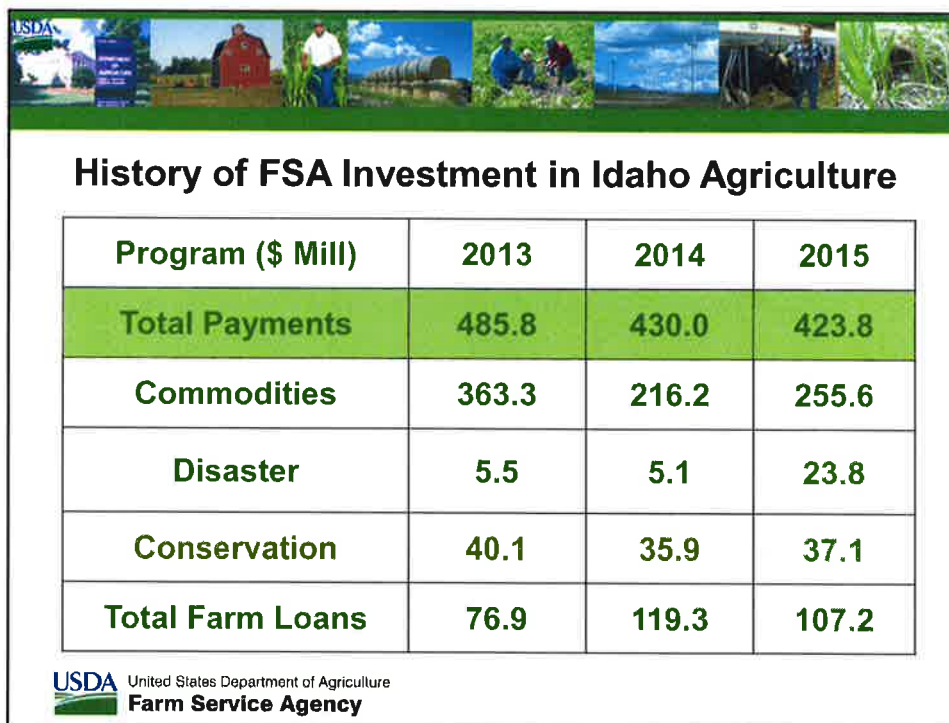

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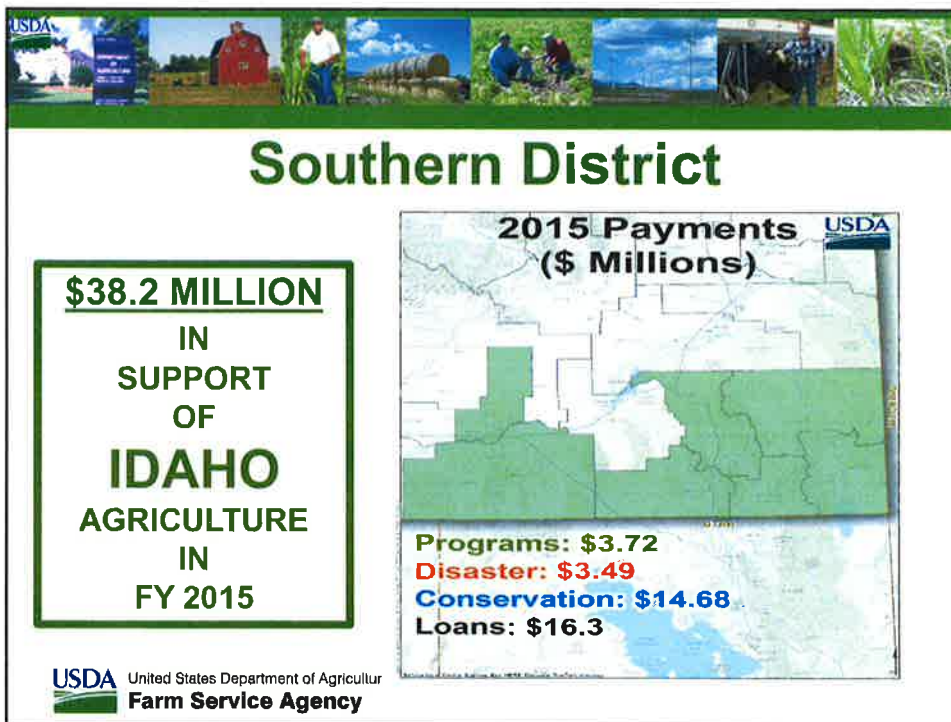
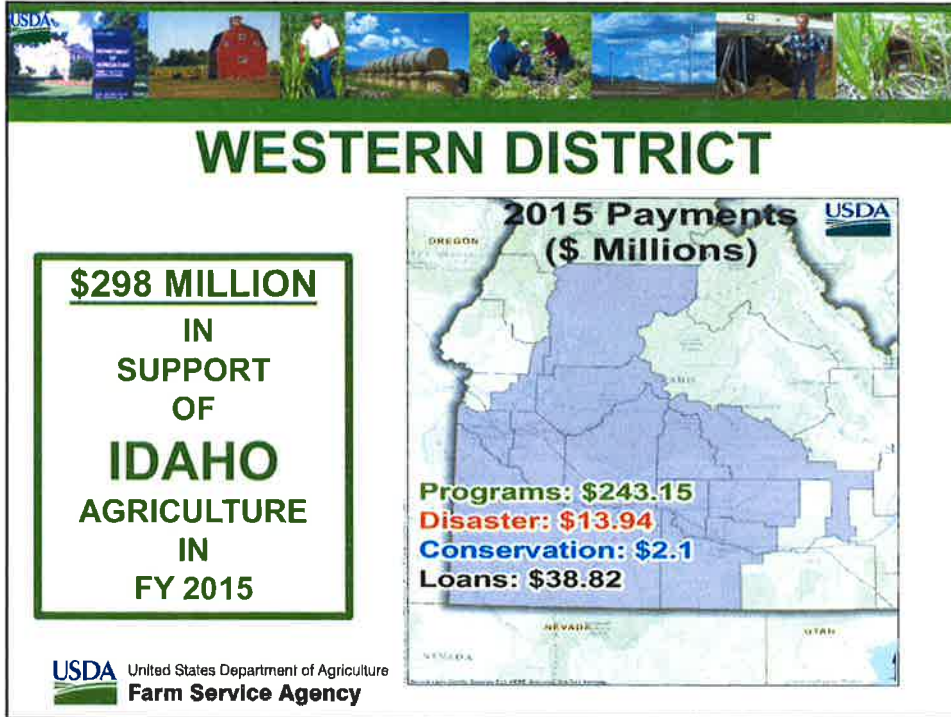


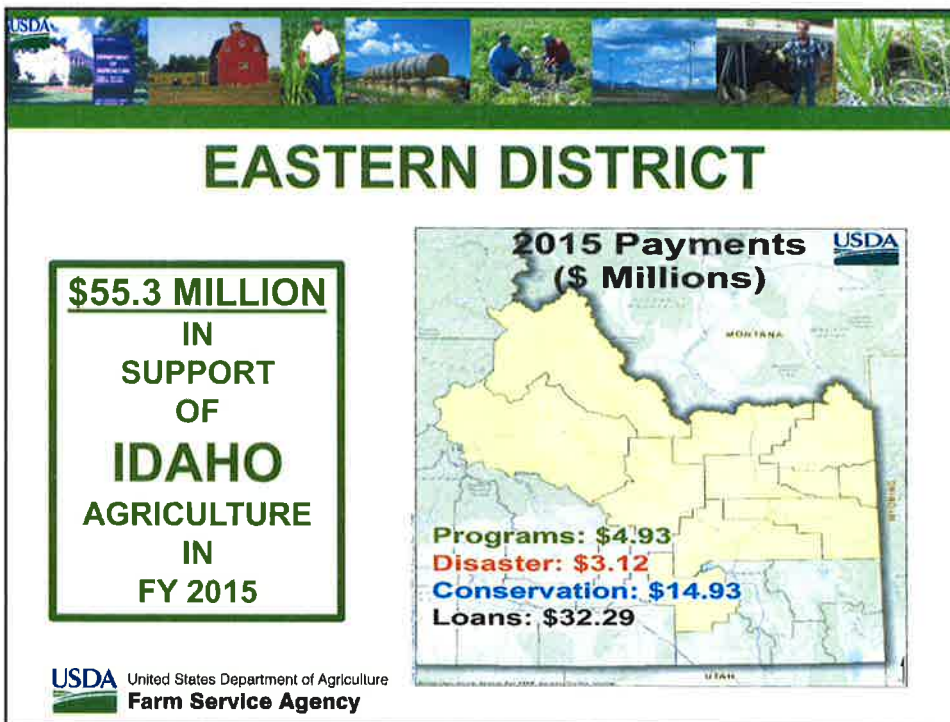
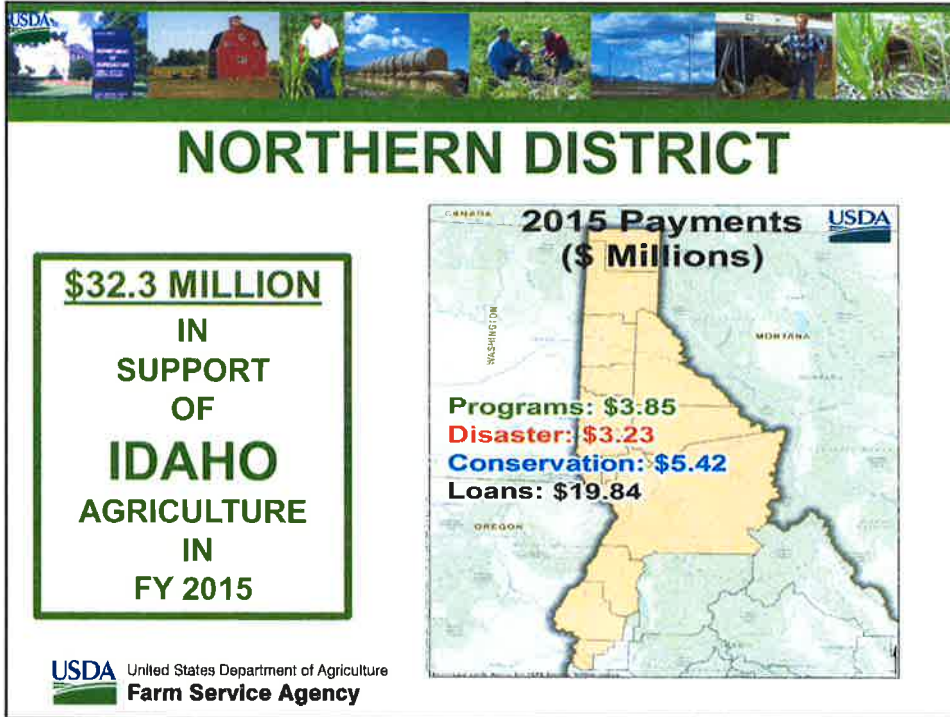
History of FSA Investment in Idaho Agriculture

Program (\$ Mill)	2013	2014	2015
Total Payments	485.8	430.0	423.8
Commodities	309.6	216.2	255.6
DCP/ACRE	53.2	48.7	.578
Marketing Loans	301.6	211.4	253.5
Dairy	6.7	.06	.004
Facility Loans	2.7	.98	1.6


 United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency









AVAILABLE NOW!

RURAL ENERGY ASSISTANT PROGRAM (REAP)

Grants, Loans for Energy Assistance on
Farm and in Rural Communities

FSA Farm +

Farm Information (CLU and related
information) available electronically!



CONCLUSION

USDA/FSA delivered \$424 million in federal
program benefits to Idaho farmers and
ranchers in FY 2015

Revenue Protection or Risk Management
was small – as expected!

Disaster Assistance Increased





\$ Benefits in 2016?

Increase in Disaster Payments
Increase in ARC/PLC Payments
Increase in Loan Activity

Provide Revenue Support and Financial Stability

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Thank You!

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www.fsa.usda.gov/id

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Farm Service Agency

MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 18, 2016
TIME: 8:00 A.M.
PLACE: Room WW53
MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rice, Vice Chairman Bayer, Senators Patrick, Lee, Den Hartog, Harris, Ward-Engelking, and Burgoyne
ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Senator Souza

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Vice Chairman Bayer** called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Lee** moved to approve the Minutes of January 28, 2016. **Senator Ward-Engelking** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

S 1260 **Relating to Animals and the Environment.** **Barry Burnell**, Administrator, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), said this bill proposes to amend the Beef Cattle Environmental Control Act (BCECA) and the Dairy Environmental Control Act (DECA). The legislation is necessary for Idaho to submit an application to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requesting authorization to implement a State National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. Idaho Code § 39-175C directed DEQ to submit a complete application, consistent with the requirements of the Clean Water Act, by September 1, 2016. The application will request authorization for this Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (IPDES) program. The proposed legislation clarifies the split of authority between the Idaho Stated Department of Agriculture (ISDA) program and the DEQ to issue IPDES permits to those dairy and beef cattle operations that select coverage under the IPDES program. To the extent any dairy farms or beef cattle animal feeding operations that are regulated by EPA, under the Clean Water Act's discharge program, those facilities would be regulated by DEQ under an approved IPDES program.

The IPDES program will be partially supported by permit fees; no fees will be imposed on dairy farms or beef cattle animal feeding operations. The costs to such facilities should not increase under the proposed legislation. There will be costs to the State of Idaho to implement this aspect of the IPDES program. The anticipated annual cost is \$4,500 per year based on current conditions with zero facilities permitted or \$40,000 per year if 28 facilities are permitted (this represents approximately 10 percent of the listed Confined Animal Feeding Operations [CAFOs] in the State). Costs have been built into the IPDES program cost estimate of \$3 million annually and 29 full-time employees.

The legislation amends the BCECA in five sections of Idaho Code (page 2-6) and the DECA in nine sections of Idaho Code (page 6-13). These proposed amendments are necessary to separate the ISDA program authorities from the Clean Water Act authorities. This is required in order for Idaho to demonstrate that the DEQ would have clear authority over implementing the Clean Water Act NPDES requirements for beef cattle and dairy CAFOs (page 3, lines 29-36, and page 7, lines 18-25).

Both acts have language that authorizes DEQ to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with ISDA. DEQ favors entering into an agreement where the existing expertise at ISDA can be used in implementing the Idaho NPDES program (page 3, lines 40-45 and page 7, lines 31-34).

The DECA directs the ISDA to implement programs to recognize, support and promote performance and innovation in the design, construction, operation and maintenance of Dairy Environmental Management Systems (page 7, lines 13-15).

DEQ has discovered two errors in the bill that need to be amended. On page 6, line 46, the word "waste" should be struck and replaced with the words "Environmental Management". The second change is on page 10, line 7, the word "and" should be struck and replaced with the word "or."

Bob Naerebout, Executive Director, Idaho Dairyman's Association (IDA), said the original statute that required dairies to have a nutrient management plan passed in 2000. Since that time, there has been an increase in research and knowledge of the beneficial use of the by-products from the dairy industry. With this research as a basis they worked to align the law with this current knowledge. It was also important to bring clarity to the statute of the differing roles of DEQ and ISDA, defining them in the legislation for the dairy industry. The terminology changes requested reflect the paradigm shift that the industry has experienced and in how the dairies now view all the products they generate. The current law is peppered with the word "waste" (referring manure and lagoon water), which falsely classifies a product that has no value and requires disposal.

IDA has continued to fund research that exhibits and demonstrates the economic value of these dairy by-products that come from the dairy operation. This research includes the increase of soil health and biodegradable plastic. Under the Fiscal Note of the legislation the dairy industry pays for all of their inspections both sanitation and environmental through an assessment.

Dan Steenson, Legal Counsel for Idaho Dairyman's Association, stated that in 2014, during a comprehensive rewrite of the statutes in Title 37 pertaining to the dairy industry, the Senate separated out provisions relating to nutrient management plans and a new piece of legislation related to the DECA. Also in 2014, the Legislature instructed DEQ to pursue primacy for NPDES permits. In the process of developing the legislation to accomplish this, EPA identified some questions concerning the DECA. Their primary concern was whether or not it conferred authority upon ISDA relating to the discharge of pollutants to Waters of the United States, which should reside with DEQ. The next step was to clarify ISDA's authority over Dairy Environmental Management Systems (DEMS). This was an opportunity to distinguish the authority of ISDA and DEQ over DEMS. They emphasized the complementary objectives of protecting water quality and utilizing dairy by-products for agronomic and other purposes driving the DEMS and plans ISDA regulates and the dairyman implement.

Mr. Steenson said the language of the bill clarifies the distinction between ISDA and DEQ authority relating to DEMS. Fundamentally, ISDA reviews, approves and enforces DEMS plans. DEQ regulates and enforces water quality laws for the State of Idaho relating to the discharge of pollutants to Waters of the U.S. There are two segments of the bill: 1) BECA (pages 1-6) and 2) DECA (pages 6-13). Section 7 contains statements of legislative purpose in Section 37-602, line 30, distinguishing the authority of DEQ and ISDA. The agreement between DEQ and ISDA pertaining to the program related to DEMS to more clearly distinguish these authorities have incorporated two terms: 1) Unauthorized discharges to the Waters of the U.S.; (DEQ jurisdiction) and 2) unauthorized releases of dairy by-product into waters that are not Waters of the U.S. (non-DEQ jurisdiction). Proposed new Section 609 is related to non-compliance and enforcement. Under proposed new subsection 2.

ISDA's authority to address non-compliance with DEMS plans does not alter the authority of DEQ in respect to the discharge pollutants to the Waters of the U.S. This again is a way of distinguishing the authority of the two agencies to address EPA's concern. As to these two complementary objectives: 1) protecting the water resources of the State and 2) using dairy by-products for agricultural production and other beneficial purposes.

In the statement of purpose, the essential statement of the fundamental purpose of the DECA is to protect the water resources and facilitate the use of dairy by-products for beneficial purposes. **Mr. Steenson** said unauthorized discharges and releases are prohibited under the act. There is no reason to refer to the dry and wet material that is produced in milk production as waste, because it is not discarded and can be reused. Throughout the legislation they have replaced the word "waste" with the term "dairy by-product". Dairy by-product is defined as solid and liquids associated with dairy animal rearing and milk production. The intent of DEMS and DECA is that this dairy by-product is reused rather than disposed of in a manner that would affect ground or surface water in Idaho.

Mr. Steenson stated that DEMS consist of two components: 1) storage and containment facilities where compost or wet material is stored or contained for a period of time and 2) the use of the material or reuse primarily through land application. Land application is defined as the spreading on or incorporating into soil mantle dairy products as soil amendment for agricultural use of nutrients and other beneficial purposes. DECA requires that dairy environmental systems be designed, approved, constructed and maintained to prevent degradation of ground and surface water.

DEMS plan the umbrella term for the plans that address the two components of DEMS: storage and containment and reuse. The plan is designed for managing DEMS, which consist of dairy storage and containment and storage criteria. It includes criteria for the design, construction, operation and maintenance of those facilities. It also describes storage and containment areas and structures within a dairy farm where dairy products are collected, stored or treated in conformance with NRCS standards or other standards that the director of ISDA may deem protective. Also included is the definition of nutrient management standard criteria for managing the land application of nutrients and soil amendments published in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) nutrient code.

Finally, this bill suggests that the DECA does not clearly manage how to encourage and promote performance innovation in DEMS. This directs ISDA to implement programs to accomplish this purpose.

Senator Lee asked about the use of the word "pollutants" from a dairy farm on line 1, page 10. Is this how it is defined in the MPDs permit? What is the difference between what is categorized as a pollutant and what is now being categorized as dairy by-product? **Mr. Steenson** answered that discharge is a term of statute under the Clean Water Act with a specific regulatory meaning. It means a discharge of a pollutant to a Water of the U.S. A pollutant would be a constituent, chemical, nutrient or sediment that may adversely affect water quality and the beneficial uses of water quality that a receiving water body is to support. A dairy by-product may or may not become a pollutant. It only becomes a pollutant if it is discharged into Waters of the U.S.

Senator Harris said in the legislation the program will be paid for by fees. What are the fees now and will there be an increase? **Mr. Burnell** replied that fee rules were established for municipalities, industrial discharges and storm water or multi-sector general permits. These permits will generate a fee, and some of those funds will help fund this program but most of the \$2 million in funds will come from the General Fund.

The cost for the fees for the municipal side is \$1.74 per household unit on an annual basis. A minor industrial permit is \$4,000 and a major industrial permit is \$13,000. The construction and multi-sector permits depend on the size of the facility and level of effort that goes into the permitting of a structure.

Jonathan Oppenheimer, representing the Idaho Conservation League, spoke in support of this legislation. The Idaho Conservation League supports the implementation of the IPDES and recognizes the need for the oversight of the DECA and BECA to reside under the authority of DEQ.

Paul McKay, representing the Milk Producers of Idaho, spoke in support of this legislation. He says the group endorses the agreement between DEQ and ISDA that allows ISDA to handle the inspection process while the enforcement remains with DEQ. ISDA inspectors are familiar with CAFO operations and more suited to carry out the inspection process. In addition, ISDA inspectors are frequently on the dairies. The Milk Producers support the changes that were negotiated with DEQ for the DECA that make the act easier to understand by the operators.

Britany Hurst, representing the Idaho Cattle Association (ICA), spoke in support of this legislation. She stated that the ICA had worked extensively with DEQ throughout the process of drafting the legislation. **S 1260** maintains the integrity of the existing BECA, which was their top priority through the negotiations process. It was also important to the ICA that a memorandum of understanding be included in the statute. It was paramount to their industry that there is a balance between the on-the-ground expertise of ISDA and the regulatory oversight of DEQ. This legislation fulfills those requirements.

MOTION: **Vice Chairman Bayer** moved that **S 1260** be referred to the 14th Order for amendment. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

INTRODUCTION AND PRESENTATION: **College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Rich Garber**, representing the University of Idaho, stated that this is an exciting time at the UI under the new leadership of Dean Michael Parrella of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. **Dean Parrella** said that he graduated with a bachelor of science degree in animal science from Rutgers University; he earned a master's degree and Ph.D. in entomology from Virginia Technical College. His most recent position was at the University of California at Davis, where he had a major research program and held some administrative positions. He was Chairman of the Department of Entomology and Nematology for 15 years and the Associate Dean of Agricultural Programs at Davis for 10 years.

PRESENTATION: **Idaho Dairy Products Commission (IDPC)/United Dairymen of Idaho. Karianne Fallow**, CEO, said United Dairymen of Idaho is the dairy checkoff organization for the Idaho farmers. IDPC is the promotion and marketing arm for our farmer investors who are regulated by U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Ms. Fallow said that dairy nutrition is a great source of pride for farmers and for dairy food manufacturers. Dairy is an important food group for health professionals, educators, school food service and food assistance programs (see attachment 1). IDPC core focus and initiatives are based on youth wellness.

IDPC believes healthy students are better students. Students who have healthy diets and get adequate physical activity tend to be focused, achieve more academically and have fewer absences. IDPC knows that habits start at a young age; by inspiring trust in dairy as a foundation for wellness IDPC can encourage a lifelong consumer who gravitates to healthy and nutritious foods for their diet. The contribution of dairy products in the diet is unmatched. Dairy products are some of the most affordable, accessible and naturally nutrient rich foods as indicated in the new Federal Dietary Guidelines.

Ms. Fallow explained that dairy holds a unique place in school meals because of the affordability and accessibility of the nutrient package in milk and other dairy products. Milk, cheese and yogurt are important components of the school meal portfolio.

Ms. Fallow concluded that the dairy industry announced the availability of \$35 million in grants to help schools upgrade their kitchen equipment and infrastructure in order to offer students better access to nutritious foods. More than 30 million children rely on the USDA's National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program for one to two meals per day. According to a 2014 survey, 88 percent of schools reported that they lacked at least one piece of equipment in their kitchens to serve healthier foods. These new grants will give millions of additional children access to more nutritious meals by providing schools with the funds to purchase additional equipment to help meet updated national nutrition standards. Because the dairy checkoff program has been such a significant presence in our Idaho, IDPC has been tasked with helping administer these grant monies from the USDA. She says that IDPC is honored to communicate this new funding opportunity to our Idaho schools.

**PAGE
GRADUATION:**

Farewell to Committee Page Nina Harelson. **Chairman Rice** asked Nina Harelson to tell the Committee about her experience as a page for the Committee and plans for the future.

ADJOURNED:

There being no further business, **Chairman Rice** adjourned the meeting at 9:22 a.m.

Senator Rice
Chair

Carol Deis
Secretary

The Idaho Dairy Industry: Where Good Comes From



Our Vision

To protect the long-term economic
interests of the Idaho Dairy
Industry



A black and white photograph of a cow in a field. The cow is in the foreground, facing right, with its head slightly turned. It has a dark coat with large white patches. The background shows a line of trees and a bright sky. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**INSPIRE TRUST in dairy farming and
dairy products and BUILD DEMAND
for dairy products around the world**

The Nutrition of Dairy

MILK	YOGURT	CHEESE
Calcium	Calcium	Calcium
Niacin*	Phosphorous	Phosphorous
*Niacin Equivalents		
Phosphorous	Potassium	Protein
Potassium	Protein	
Protein	Riboflavin	
Vitamin A		
Vitamin B-12		
Vitamin D		
Riboflavin		

Priority: Youth Wellness



Channel: The Schools

Choose **MyPlate.gov**

MyPlate at School

USDA

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is committed to providing the nation with safe, healthy, and nutritious food. MyPlate is a tool to help you understand the basics of a healthy diet. It is based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, which are the foundation for the USDA's food and nutrition assistance programs. MyPlate is a simplified version of the Dietary Guidelines, which are more detailed and complex. MyPlate is a tool to help you understand the basics of a healthy diet. It is based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, which are the foundation for the USDA's food and nutrition assistance programs. MyPlate is a simplified version of the Dietary Guidelines, which are more detailed and complex.

UNITED DAIRYMEN of IDAHO

Channel: The Schools

Provided by Idaho's Dairy Farm Families

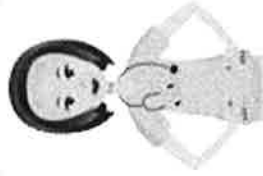
Standardized Testing String Cheese

DAIRY
+ DOES +
GOOD



Idaho's dairy farmers provide string cheese for Idaho schools during standardized testing. Enrollment in the Dairy Does Good program opens soon!

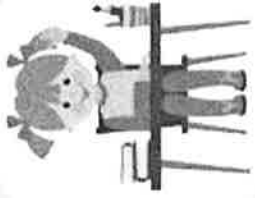
Nutrition Education



Adults / Health
Professionals



Childcare / Preschool /
Kindergarten



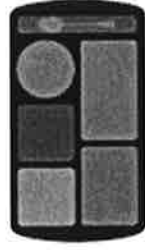
Elementary



Curriculum



Middle-Senior High



School Foodservice

USDA Announcement

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USDA, NFL, Fuel Up to Play 60 Partner to Award \$35 Million to Help Schools Serve Healthier Meals, Strengthen Childhood Nutrition

USDA, NFL, Fuel Up to Play 60 Partner to Award \$35 Million to Help Schools Serve Healthier Meals, Strengthen Childhood Nutrition

Release No.
0034.16

Grants Will Improve Food Service Equipment, Upgrade Infrastructure Critical to Building Healthy Schools and Communities

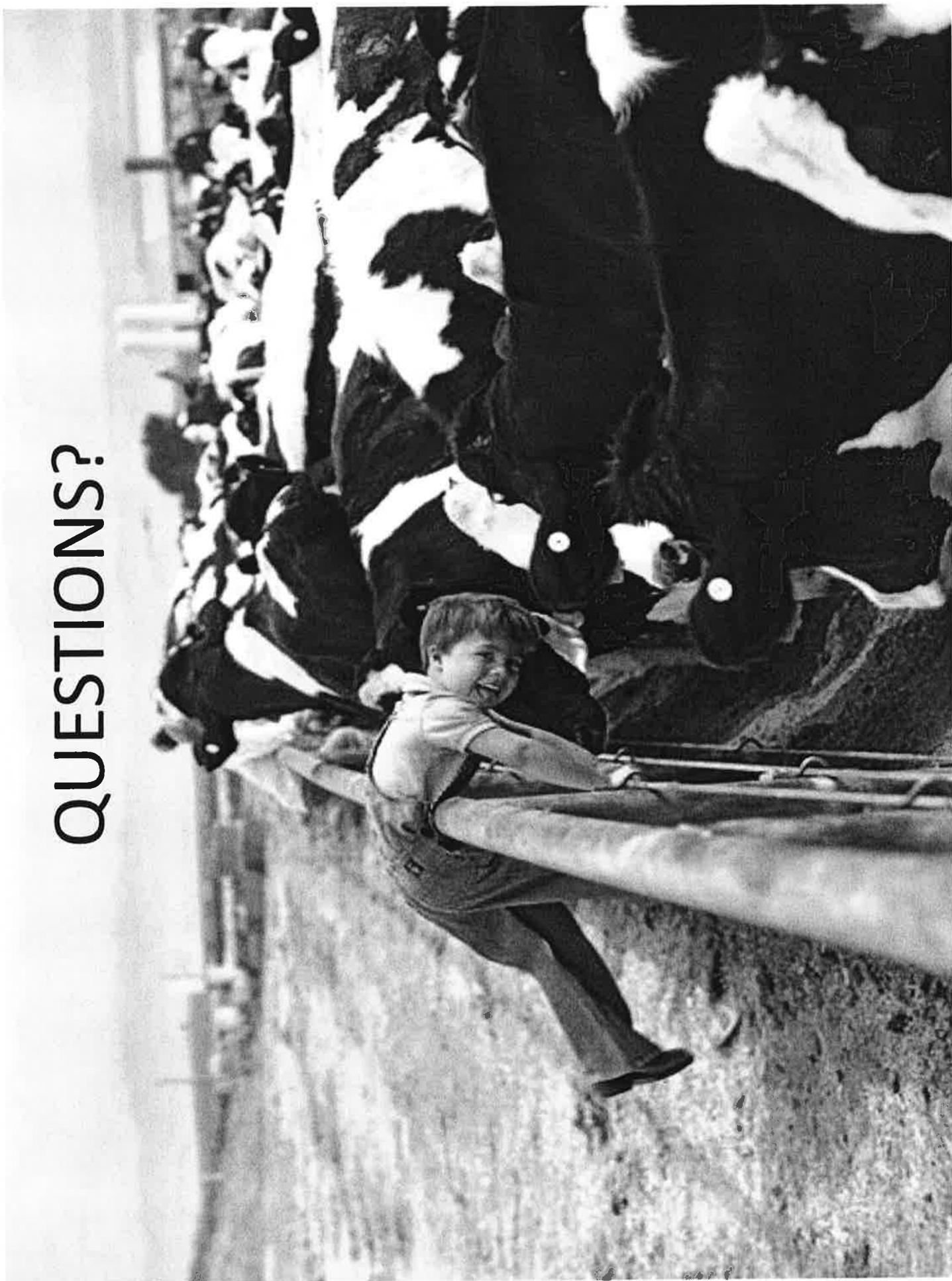
SANTA CLARA, Calif., Feb. 5, 2016 – Amid pre-Super Bowl 50 celebrations today, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, and Paul Rovey, dairy farmer and leader of the National Dairy Council (NDC), announced the availability of \$35 million in grants to help schools upgrade their kitchen equipment and infrastructure in order to offer students better access to nutritious foods.

Three in five students – more than 30 million children – rely on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National School Lunch program and School Breakfast program for one to two meals per day, however according to a 2014 survey, 88% of schools reported additional national lacking at least one piece of equipment they needed in order to serve healthier foods. These grants will give them meet updated national access to more nutritious meals by providing schools with the funds to purchase additional equipment to help them meet updated national nutrition standards, and serve healthy meals with more whole grains, fruits, vegetables, lean protein and low-fat dairy, and less sodium and fat.

In 2008, USDA, NFL, NDC, and GENYOUth partnered via Fuel Up to Play 60, an in-school nutrition and physical activity program to help



QUESTIONS?



MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 23, 2016

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rice, Vice Chairman Bayer, Senators Patrick, Souza, Lee, Den Hartog, Harris and Ward-Engelking

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Senator Burgoyne

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Rice** called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

INTRODUCTION: **Chairman Rice** introduced and welcomed Committee Page Tabitha Manor.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Souza** moved to approve the Minutes of February 2, 2016. **Senator Harris** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Senators Patrick and Burgoyne were not present to approve Minutes of February 4, 2016.

PRESENTATION: **Idaho State Department of Agriculture, Invasive Species and Weed Awareness Program Updates.** **Lloyd Knight**, Administrator, Plant Industries Division, Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), began his invasive species prevention presentation by pointing out that the first watercraft inspection station was opened in 2009. Idaho was the first state to implement a statewide watercraft inspection program for the purposes of prevention. The State's primary focus is quagga and zebra mussels along with aquatic weeds. When the program commenced, ISDA started collecting data and analyzing the information to make decisions on strategies, budgets and expenses. Another aspect of this project is water sampling around the State; 700 samples from bodies of water across the State are tested each year looking for the mussels and none have been found.

In 2015 Idaho had 20 roadside stations on the routes entering the State. The stations across Southern Idaho and on Interstate 90 are meant to target the traffic that moves watercraft that has been to mussel-infested water bodies across the country. Their agency inspected 64,000 watercraft in 2015, which was a large increase from the normal 40,000.

Mr. Knight stated that since 2009, ISDA has intercepted 145 mussel-fouled vessels entering Idaho. These vessels originated from Lakes, Mead, Havasu, Pleasant and Powell. These lakes are all in the lower Colorado River area, which is the primary source of the infested boats with viable mussels. Boats that come out of the Great Lakes usually do not have viable mussels on them because they have been pulled out of the water and wintered. ISDA has learned through their data analysis where boats that come through the State are going. Most of the boats that have been in mussel-infested waters are going to other states.

Of the 25 mussel-infested boats that were found in 2015, 11 of the boats had been out of water for less than 30 days (mussels can survive outside of water and still be viable) and 14 of the boats were commercially transported and destined for another state (attachment 1 and 2). **Mr. Knight** explained the data of average days in water for boating behaviors. Through data collected over the last several years, it has revealed that boats that go to Lake Powell spend a week; if they go to Lake Havasu the vessel will go for the winter and be in the lake for a month and then travel back to the State. The longer the boat is in mussel-infested water, the more opportunity there is for mussels to attach to the vessel. In 2015, 60 percent of the boats that were fouled came from the east and this is a different pattern of boat traffic from past years. Also, the destination was different than in past years. In 2015, 68 percent of the boats were destined for Idaho; usually the boats are going to other states.

Chairman Rice asked if ISDA has received the additional monies from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to help support the inspection process for the State?

Mr. Knight advised that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Authorization and Appropriation did include \$4 million specific to the Columbia Basin for watercraft inspection. They are still waiting for the guidance document for the funding. In ISDA's planning talks for the allocation of these additional funds, one of the topics they have discussed is expanding hours of the inspection stations and additional locations.

Senator Patrick stated that Idaho is the defense line for the Columbia River Basin and there is much concern with the diligence of the inspection process. He questioned the hours of operation, stating that boats that are hauled from the south do not get to Idaho border station until they have closed for the night. **Senator Patrick** said he believes the intrinsic measure in this battle is to keep the stations open longer. **Mr. Knight** stated that they have data that shows the boat traffic falls off precipitously after a certain hour. They have extended the hours in a few locations beyond eight to try to capture how many boats go through at that time. ISDA believes they are capturing most of the boat traffic. **Senator Patrick** stated he is concerned because of the damage these mussels will do to Idaho's agriculture, reservoirs and hydrosystems. He agrees that states who have the mussels should be cleaning the boats as they leave; but they do not seem to be concerned because their waters are already contaminated. Until Idaho gets the federal government to cooperate, Idaho may not win the battle. If you think through the travel time needed to haul a boat from Lake Mead or Powell they will not make the Idaho border before eight o'clock at night. It would make sense to run longer hours at certain stations. **Mr. Knight** answered that their contractors are on the ground at those stations on a regular basis. They are in constant contact with the individuals running the stations and do surprise visits. This is a program that ISDA takes very seriously and he did not want the Committee to understand their answers for hours of operation to portray anything other than a very intense focus on this effort. ISDA understands the devastation if Idaho got an infestation of this mussel. Idaho has endangered species concerns that other states do not have to contend with, and hydropower and irrigation. ISDA understands the urgency.

Senator Souza asked if there is a mechanism at the source lakes for the boaters to be informed that if they put their vessel into these lakes that they take on the financial risk to treat and remove these mussels. **Mr. Knight** answered that the source water authorities have stepped up their communication efforts for vessels that enter and leave their water bodies. The focus of their message is clean, drain and dry, emphasizing the importance of not transporting fouled watercraft to neighboring states. When a fouled vessel comes through one of Idaho stations, the primary goal is to make sure that vessel is clean. The boats that are held at an Idaho station remain in ISDA's possession for 30 days.

Chairman Rice commented that the message the Committee would convey is they are engaged in this effort as Legislators to work with ISDA and make sure that the resources necessary are available so this invasive species does not get a foothold in Idaho waters.

Mr. Knight gave a brief overview of an outreach campaign for noxious weeds and invasive species, stating ISDA is in the process of launching a new website that will feature such information as: 1) how to identify weeds; 2) what are the species listed in the State and what do they look like; 3) why are weeds important. They rolled out part of the campaign last fall and are now putting the finishing touches on the website to have it up this spring. They have contracted with an agency, which has helped with other public awareness issues for their agency in the past. The biggest challenge ISDA faces is outreach and targeting their audience to educate and inform the public of their role in weed control in the State. The campaign and a portion of the website incorporate the message "Weeds are important because all humans move them."

PRESENTATION: Idaho Barley Commission. Kelly Olson, Administrator, began her presentation highlighting the barley crop figures for 2015. Harvested acres were 550,000, which was equal to last year. The average statewide yield for 2015 was 97 bushels to the acre, up 3 percent (a new record). The producers output was 53 million bushels and the farm-gate receipts were \$286 million, up 7 percent; that means barley is the fifth largest crop in the State. In the past 20 years, acres of production are down 25 percent but the same production remains. Today the farmers are producing the same amount of barley on 25 percent fewer acres, and 85 percent of the crop is used to produce malt for beer (see attachment 3).

Ms. Olson then gave an overview of their budget for 2016 and discussed how the dollars were allocated: 14 percent administration, 48 percent research, 12 percent market development, 16 percent growers services and 10 percent information and education. Three years ago the barley producers created a \$1 million endowment to create an agronomist position, and Dr. Christopher Rogers was hired. He specializes in soil science, fertility, plant nutrition and applied soil physics. In the last year he has won or earned competitive research grants from University of Idaho, Idaho Barley Commission, Anheuser-Busch, MillerCoors and the Brewers Association. This young scientist has far exceeded their expectations and he is already becoming an outstanding return on investment for Idaho Barley Producers.

For the last 100 years the USDA has invested in barley breeding in the State. This is the only federally funded barley breeding program and the largest breeding facility in the United States. Idaho is the number one producer for malt barley in the country. The Anheuser-Busch and MillerCoors brewing companies have invested heavily in Idaho. The commercial malt industry of GrainCorp located in Pocatello is the world's fourth largest malt manufacturer. The company is expanding its Pocatello plant by 130 percent and that expansion is being driven by the tremendous growth in the craft brewing industry.

PRESENTATION: Idaho Bean Commission. Andi Weibye, Administrator, reported that the Idaho Bean Commission (IBC) submitted a multi-state specialty crop block grant in 2015 with Wyoming and Colorado to create the multi-state bean breeding research. They have expanded markets to Costa Rica with a specialty crop block grant and have been researching red beans. The IBC has been doing specialty crop block grants since 2009. In 2015, the IBC received approval for approximately \$300,000 for future research (see attachment 4).

Ms. Weibye gave a summary of the IBC budget, reporting an estimated reserve balance of \$665,227, receipts with expenses of \$319,737 and grant matching expenses of \$47,196. Their total expenditures of \$366,933 including an estimated reserve balance of \$300,000.

Ms. Weibye concluded that IBC attended the West Coast kick-off launch of the International Year of the Pulse. In attendance were food bloggers, nutritionists and food magazines to name a few. They came to learn to cook pulses, the benefits of pulses and how to cook beans. The future activities of IBC will be to continue to support the development of the multi-state bean consortium. There will be a continued involvement with the Global Scholars Program to help grow new international markets and to pursue grant funding.

Senator Den Hartog stated that she appreciate IBC's focus on returning something valuable back to the growers. This is an important component of the commissions and the Committee does not see that often. The renewed focus on what the IBC can do for the growers is an important move forward.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, **Chairman Rice** adjourned the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

Senator Rice
Chair

Carol Deis
Secretary

Idaho Aquatic Invasive Species Program Summary 2015

Idaho State Department of Agriculture

2015 Program Highlights

- ISDA worked cooperatively with local partners around the state to operate 20 watercraft inspection stations.
- Over 64,157 watercraft inspections were conducted. This is the highest number of watercraft inspected in Idaho during a single season.
- Over 311,000 watercraft inspections have been conducted in Idaho since the program began in 2009.
- A roving inspection crew was operated for the first time this season inspecting watercraft and educating boaters at high use boat ramps around the southwestern part of the state.
- 25 zebra / quagga mussel fouled vessels were intercepted.
- 145 zebra / quagga mussel fouled vessels have been intercepted in Idaho since the program began in 2009.
- 690 veliger samples for zebra / quagga mussels early detection monitoring were collected from 70 high-risk waterbodies throughout the state.
- To date, no evidence of zebra or quagga mussels has been found in the waters of Idaho.
- To date, zebra / quagga mussels have not been observed anywhere in the waters of the Columbia River Basin, including Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, British Columbia and Alberta.
- ISDA staff provided 12 watercraft inspection trainings and presented invasive species information to over 30 stakeholder groups.
- Educational materials reinforcing the Clean Drain Dry message were distributed to over 100,000 boaters in 2015.
- ISDA continues to work with regional partners to improve the efficacy, efficiency and consistency of invasive species prevention and education initiatives in the region.



65 foot houseboat intercepted with mussels in Post Falls, ID as the result of notification from Nevada Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Introduction

Invasive species are responsible for causing billions of dollars in damage to infrastructure and the environment every year. Many of the invasive species that cause problems nationally are not yet found in Idaho, presenting an exceptional opportunity to prevent the introduction of these species. The Idaho Invasive Species Program at the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) is addressing this threat through a program that focuses on prevention, survey, treatment and education.

Watercraft Inspection

Watercraft inspection is the primary method ISDA utilizes to prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species (AIS). The 2015 season was the seventh year of Idaho's watercraft inspection program with 20 inspection stations operated state-wide (Map 1). Over 64,000 vessels were inspected representing the highest number of inspections in a single season since the program began in 2009 (Figure 1). The rise in inspection numbers was due to several factors including the operation of additional stations, expansion of hours of operation, and mild weather during the 2015 boating season.

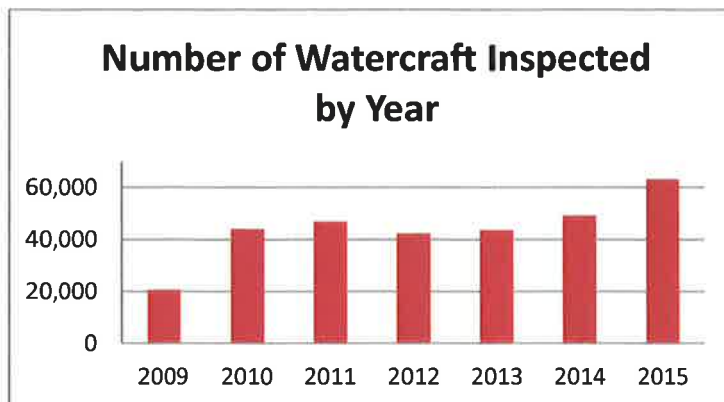
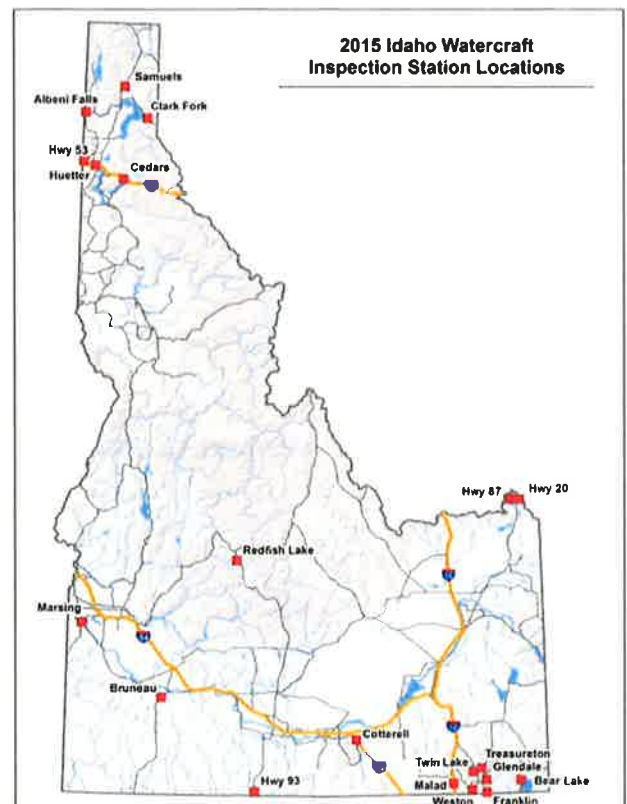
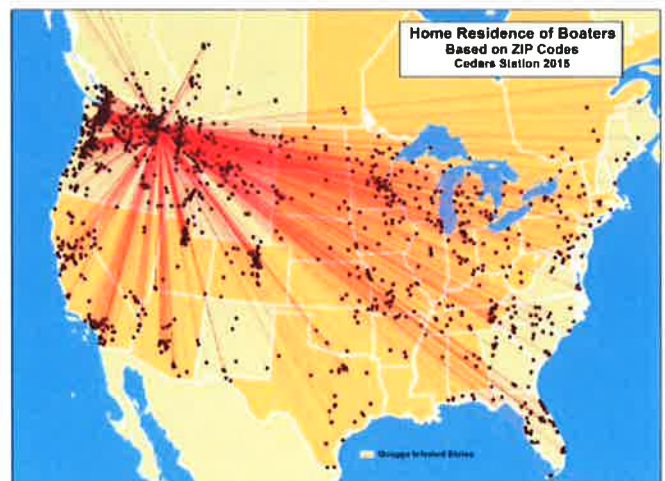


Figure 1: Watercraft inspected by year.

Watercraft inspection stations check boats to make sure they are not transporting AIS. Inspection stations also educate the boating public to clean, drain and dry their boats. When boaters follow these three easy steps, they do their part to prevent the movement of AIS and help protect our waters from invasive species. Boats were inspected from all 50 states and southern Canadian provinces in 2015. The Cedars (I-90 westbound) station alone inspected boats from over 1,500 zip and postal codes this season (Map 2). A summary of 2015 inspection data can be found below in Table 1 and in more detail in Appendix 1.



Map 1: Watercraft inspection station locations 2015.

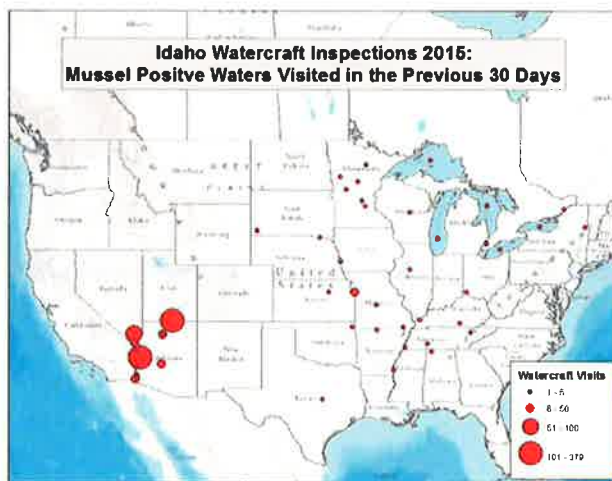


Map 2: Zip codes of watercraft inspected at the Cedars (I-90 westbound) watercraft inspection station during the 2015 season.

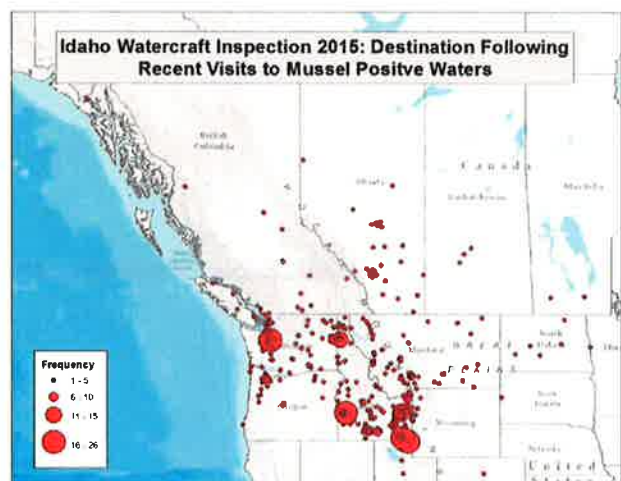
2015 Inspections	Number of Watercraft
Vessels Inspected	64,157
Passport Inspections	13,106
Vessels Recently In Mussel-Infested Waters	839
Vessels Hot Washed	660
Vessels with Vegetation	296
Mussel-Fouled Vessels	25

Table 1: 2015 watercraft inspection data summary.

High Risk Inspections: Over 800 high risk vessels had visited waters with adult zebra / quagga mussel within the previous 30 days (Map 3). These watercraft represent the highest risk for transporting live zebra / quagga mussels into the state. Less than 30% of these vessels were inspected prior to coming to Idaho and most were out of the water for only a week (Appendix 2). These vessels received a thorough high-risk inspection and many were hot washed to ensure that they were free of AIS. Following inspection, over half of these boats traveled to destinations in Idaho, with the remainder destined to locations throughout region (Map 4).

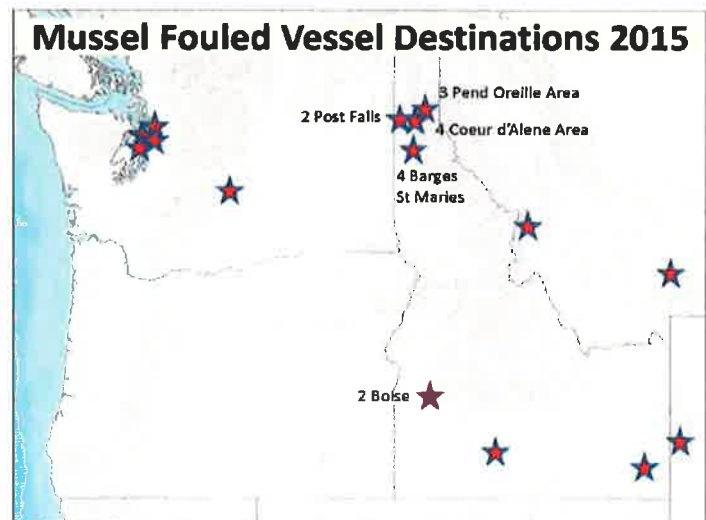


Map 3: Mussel waters visited in the previous 30 days.



Map 4: Destination of vessels coming from mussel impacted waters.

Mussel Fouled Watercraft: Twenty five vessels were intercepted transporting zebra or quagga mussels in 2015. These vessels originated from lakes, Havasu, Pleasant, and Mead as well as from waters in 9 other eastern states (Appendix 3). Seventeen of these vessels were destined for Idaho, with the others heading to waters in the neighboring states (Map 5). Vessels that were destined for Idaho were thoroughly decontaminated by ISDA staff and remained out of the water for a minimum of 30 days. A total of 145 mussel-fouled vessels have been intercepted in Idaho since the program began in 2009 (Figure 2).



Map 5: Destinations for mussel fouled vessels intercepted in Idaho, 2015.

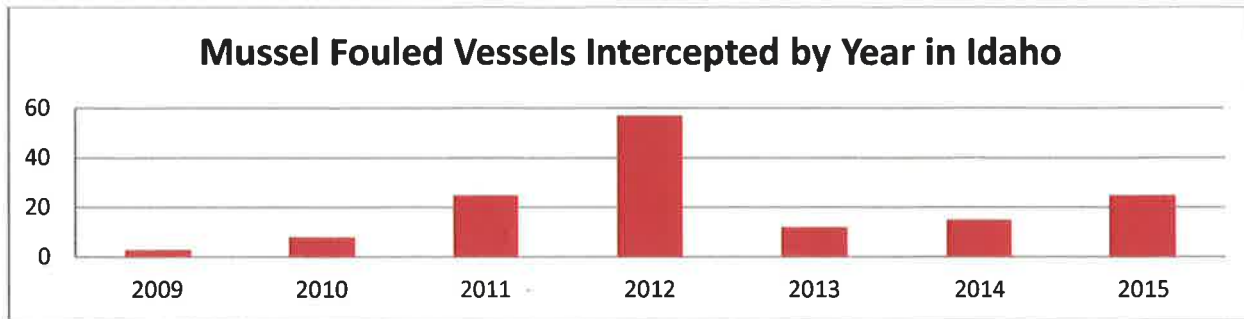
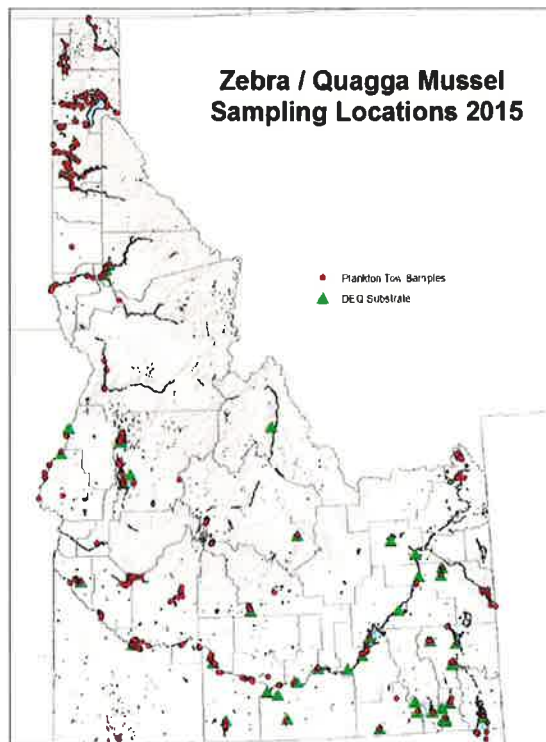


Figure 2: Number of mussel fouled vessels intercepted by year by the Idaho Watercraft Inspection Program.

The number of mussel fouled watercraft increased in 2015 due in part to the increased level of notification provided by state and regional partners. Notifications that led to the interception of vessels with mussels were provided by Nevada Department of Fish and Wildlife (NDOW), Arizona Department of Game and Fish (AZGF), Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks (MTFWP), Utah Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (UTDWR), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the Idaho Department of Transportation (ITD) (Appendix 3). Over 60% of the mussel vessels this season were intercepted due to notification from state and regional partners. These vessels represent the highest risk for live mussel transport and notification allows ISDA staff to follow up with the boat owner to ensure adequate dry time and to verify that all AIS are removed. ISDA is working with regional partners to further improve notification to help identify and intercept these vessels as they travel to Idaho. More watercraft inspection information can be found at: www.invasivespecies.idaho.gov.

Invasive Species Early Detection Monitoring



Map 6: Zebra / quagga mussel sampling locations 2015.

ISDA's early detection monitoring program collected 690 plankton samples from 70 waterbodies in Idaho in 2015. A number of partners also assist with mussel early detection monitoring including the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), The Shoshone Piute Tribe, The Coeur d'Alene Tribe, Idaho Power Company, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Forest Service, lake associations and various canal companies and irrigation districts around the state. To date, no evidence of mussels has been found in Idaho or anywhere in the Columbia River Basin.

Monitoring conducted by ISDA also involves survey for invasive plants, snails, clams, mussels, and crayfish. Surveys in 2015 identified new populations of Eurasian watermilfoil in the Hagerman area (Twin Falls County) and in Oxbow Reservoir (Adams County), flowering rush in Blackfoot Reservoir (Caribou and Bingham Counties), curlyleaf pondweed in Mud Lake (Jefferson County), Chinese mystery snails in Spirit Lake (Kootenai County), and Asian clams, channeled apple snails and hydrilla in geothermal waters in Twin Falls County.

Education

Education is a major component of the ISDA invasive species prevention program. The watercraft inspection stations play an important role in education through one-on-one interaction with the public and reinforcing the “Clean Drain Dry” message. Inspectors also provided a variety of invasive species related educational materials to the public.



ISDA staff participated in a number of events this season which helped educate the public on invasive species issues and the importance of “Clean, Drain, Dry.” Events included the Burley Boat Regatta, the Saint Maries Jet Boat Races, the Coeur d’Alene Wooden Boat Show, the Twin Falls County Fair, the Idaho State Fair, and the Idaho Horticultural Show. Staff provided 12 watercraft inspection trainings, educating over 100 individuals on the threats of invasive species and watercraft inspection protocols. Staff also presented on invasive species issues to noxious weed professionals, counties, tribes, master naturalists, marine deputies, ITD staff, DEQ staff, IDFG staff, lake associations, and student groups.

Idaho Invasive Species Council

The Idaho Invasive Species Council (IISC) was created by Executive Order in 2001 as a forum for coordinating invasive species related efforts and initiatives in the state. The IISC holds biannual meetings to discuss AIS issues and projects and in 2015 approved the “Idaho Response Plan for Invasive Insect and Disease Tree Pests” and the updated “Idaho Rapid Response Plan for Detection of Dreissenid Mussels.”

A State-wide Effort

The invasive species program in Idaho would not be possible if it weren’t for the support of partners throughout the region. Partners that operate watercraft inspection stations include: the Bonner, Bruneau, Franklin and Oneida Soil and Water Conservation Districts; Twin Falls and Fremont Counties; the City of Bloomington; and the US Forest Service. Support for the program also comes from partners around the state including: County Sheriffs, County Noxious Weed Departments, canal companies and irrigation districts, Idaho Fish and Game (IDFG), Idaho Transportation Department (ITD), Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR), Idaho Office of Species Conservation (OSC), Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR), Idaho State Police (ISP), Pend Oreille Basin Commission, Idaho Power, Idaho Water Users Association, Idaho Aquaculture Association, US Forest Service (USFS), US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), US Bureau of Land Management (BLM), US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), USDA APHIS, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Idaho Conservation League (ICL), lake and homeowner associations, local civic groups and dedicated members of the public. Thank you for your continued support.

Appendix 1: Idaho Watercraft Inspection Numbers by Station 2015.

Stations 2015	Total Inspections	Weeds	Commercial	Hot Wash	In Mussel Waters in Previous 30 Days	Mussel Fouled Vessels 2015	Mussel Fouled Vessels 2009-2015
Albeni Falls	6,104	2	1	2	4	1	2
Bear Lake	3,300	2	7	23	24		
Bruneau	2,870	6	1	7	8		3
Cedars	7,256	56	418	29	61	5	43
Clark Fork	3,284	12	4	5	7	2	2
Cotterell	2,436	5	258	107	201	1	10
Franklin	2,659	3	6	16	26	1	2
Glendale	1,584	9	1	3	11		
Huetter	9,943	65	90	5	7		3
Hwy 20	5,199	53	4	5	17		
Hwy 53	3,225	16	0	1	1		
Hwy 87	2,374	3	11	11	6	1	1
Hwy 93	1,423	0	32	167	161	1	16
Malad	3,699	1	14	231	274	2	17
Marsing	1,126	13	8	13	19		2
Redfish Lake	1,799	23	0	26	3		1
Roving Crew	928	13	0	3	2		
Samuels	3,165	11	3	3	0		
Treasureton	22	0	0	0	0		
Twin Lake	1,562	3	3	2	4		
Weston	199	0	0	1	3		
Port of Entry / House Calls						11	43
Total	64,157	296	861	660	839	25	145

Appendix 2: Summary of High Risk Inspections 2015

Final Watercraft Inspection Data 2015: Vessels that Visited Mussel Positive Waters in the Previous 30 Days

Waterbody	Number of Boats	Percent of Total High Risk	Percent Previously Inspected	Average Days In	Average Days Out	Percent Non-Motorized
Lake Powell	381	46	27	5	6	7
Lake Havasu	165	20	16	25	7	8
Colorado River Above Mead	60	7	5	11	7	73
Colorado River Below Mead	53	6	13	26	8	28
Lake Mead	56	7	14	18	9	9
Lake Pleasant	23	3	9	46	13	4
Lake Mohave	19	2	11	12	11	5
Eastern Waters	73	9	23	20	11	26

Appendix 3: Summary of Mussel Fouled Vessels Intercepted in 2015

Date	Origin	Destination	Vessel Type	Out of Water for Less Than 30 Days	Vessel Recently Purchased	Commercial Transport	ISDA Notified Prior to Interception
1/21/2015	Mead Lake, NV	Hagerman, ID	Cabin Cruiser		yes		NDOW
2/20/2015	Mead Lake, NV	Bozeman, MT	Cabin Cruiser 31'	yes	yes		NDOW
3/4/2015	Mead Lake, NV	Post Falls, ID	House Boat 65'	yes	yes	yes	NDOW
3/14/2015	Lake Havasu, AZ	Hope, ID	Pontoon 21'	yes			AZGF
3/17/2015	Lake Pleasant, AZ	Coeur d'Alene, ID	Cabin Cruiser 31'	yes	yes		AZGF
3/23/2015	Lake Havasu, AZ	Hamilton, MT	Pontoon 21'	yes			CDFW
4/19/2015	Clinton, TN	Hayden, ID	Pontoon 26'	yes	yes	yes	
5/5/2015	Mead Lake, NV	Coeur d'Alene, ID	Cabin Cruiser 34'		yes	yes	NDOW
5/26/2015	Lake Michigan, MI	Pend Oreille, ID	Fishing Boat 18'		yes		
5/31/2015	Long Lake, MN	Alpine, WY	Ski Boat		yes		
6/5/2015	Illinois	Vashon Island, WA	Pontoon Boat		yes	yes	
6/16/2015	Erie, PA	Hope, ID	Cabin Cruiser	yes	yes	yes	MTFWP
6/17/2015	Dubuque, IA	St Maries, ID	Floating Barge			yes	ITD
6/17/2015	Dubuque, IA	St Maries, ID	Floating Barge			yes	ITD
6/17/2015	Dubuque, IA	St Maries, ID	Floating Barge			yes	ITD
6/17/2015	Dubuque, IA	St Maries, ID	Floating Barge			yes	ITD
6/19/2015	Bay City, WI	Coeur d'Alene, ID	Pontoon Boat 27'		yes	yes	
6/20/2015	Mullet Lake, MI	Port Orchard, WA	Ski Boat 23'	yes	yes	yes	
7/10/2015	Lake Michigan, MI	Seattle, WA	Sail Boat 32'		yes	yes	MTFWP
7/14/2015	Lake Mead, NV	Wooley, WA	Cabin Cruiser 27'	yes	yes		NDOW
7/20/2015	Lake Mead, NV	Boise, ID	Cabin Cruiser		yes		UTDWR
7/23/2015	Lake Mead, NV	Soda Springs, ID	Pontoon 24'			yes	
9/11/2015	Hudson Lake, IN	Naches, WA	Pontoon	yes	yes		
9/22/2015	Lake George, NY	Boise, ID	Fishing Boat		yes		
10/1/2015	Cheboygan, MI	Post Falls, ID	Cabin Cruiser 31'	yes	yes	yes	ITD
Total: 25				11	18	14	16

ISDA Invasive Species/Weeds Update

- Update on Watercraft Inspection
- Update on Noxious Weeds Funding

Invasive Species & Weeds Staff

- Full Time
 - Section Manager – Boise
 - GIS Specialist - Boise
 - Agriculture Program Manager – Coeur d'Alene
 - Agriculture Program Specialists – Boise and Idaho Falls
 - Technician – Boise
 - Admin. Asst. - Boise
- Seasonal Temporary Employees
 - Watercraft Inspection
 - Aquatic IS/Weed Survey

Cooperators

- Soil & Water Conservation Districts
- County Weed Departments
- Water Delivery
- Idaho Transportation Dept.
- Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
- Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
- Idaho Department of Fish and Game
- State and local law enforcement
- Federal agencies – USFWS, Forest Service, BLM

INVASIVE SPECIES

Invasive Species Prevention

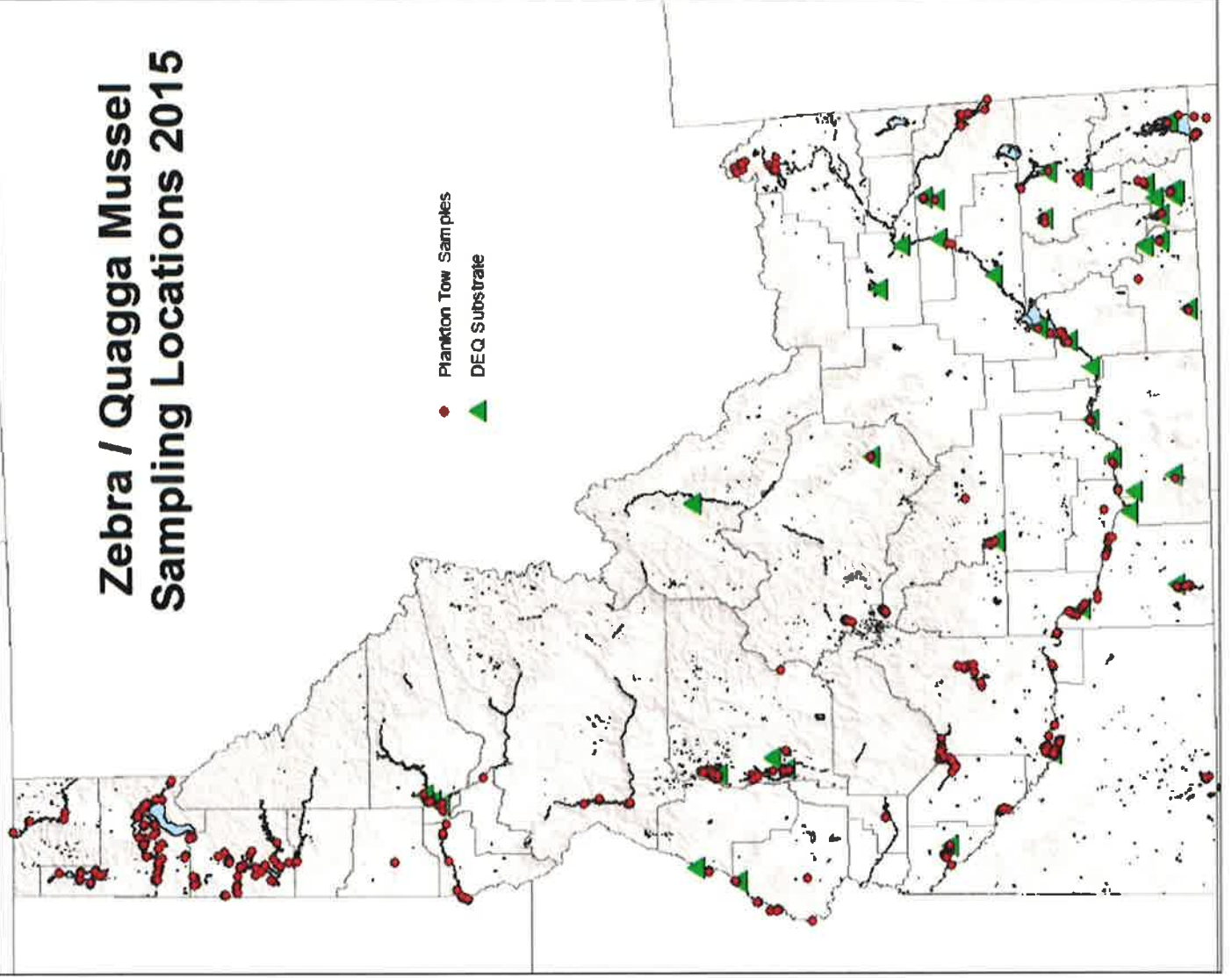
- Invasive Species Council – Executive Order
- Idaho Invasive Species Act – 2008
- Invasive Species Fund – 2009
- First watercraft inspection stations – 2009
 - First state to do statewide watercraft inspection for the purposes of prevention
 - Focus primarily on quagga and zebra mussels and high risk watercraft entering the state from infested waters

Watercraft Inspection – Evolution

- When we started, we knew...not much
- Data collection for an informed strategy
- Data analysis for informed decisions
- Responsible and realistic budgeting and planning
- Collaboration with partner agencies
- Safety for employees

Zebra / Quagga Mussel Sampling Locations 2015

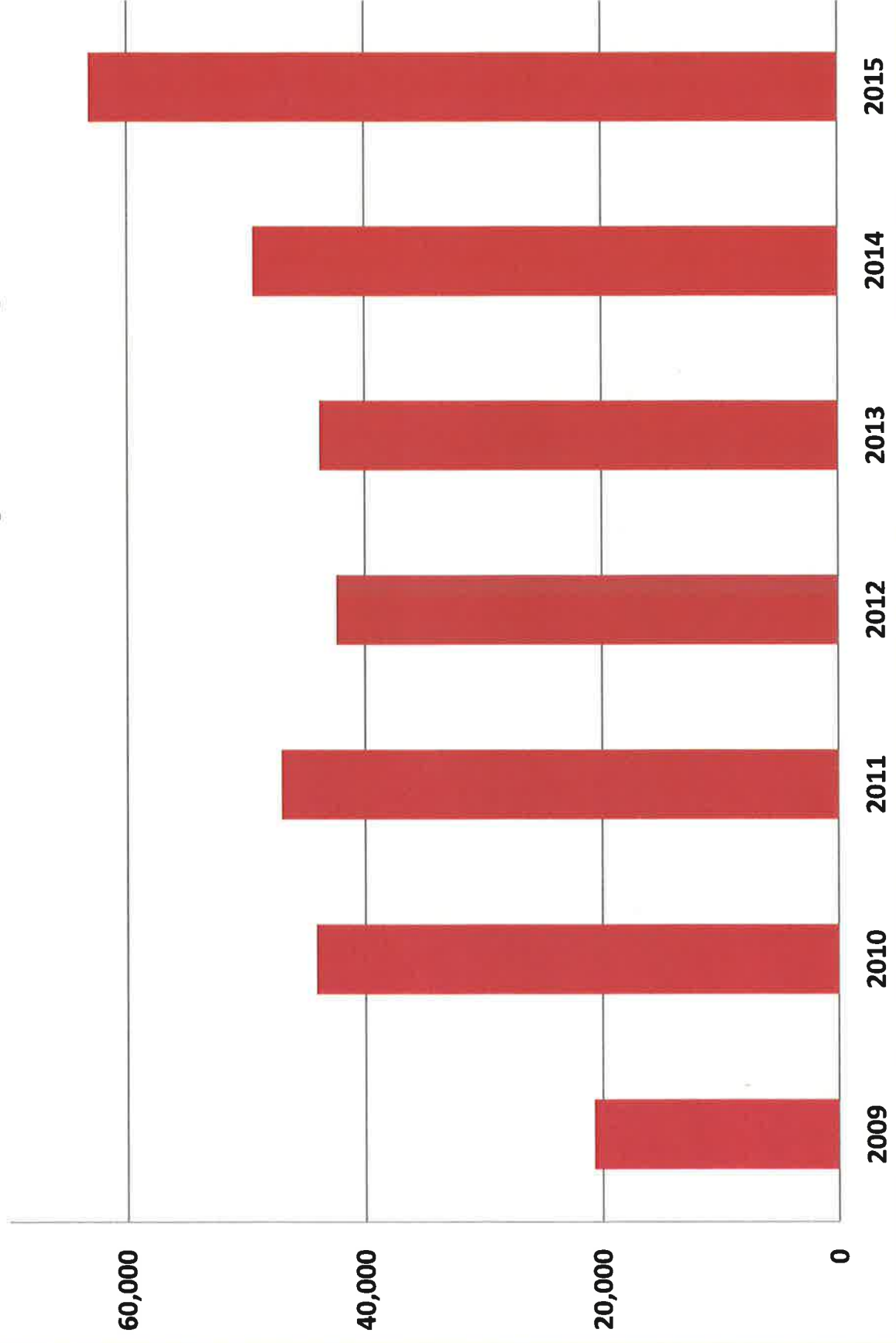
● Plankton Tow Samples
▲ DEQ Substrate



2015 Idaho Watercraft Inspection Station Locations

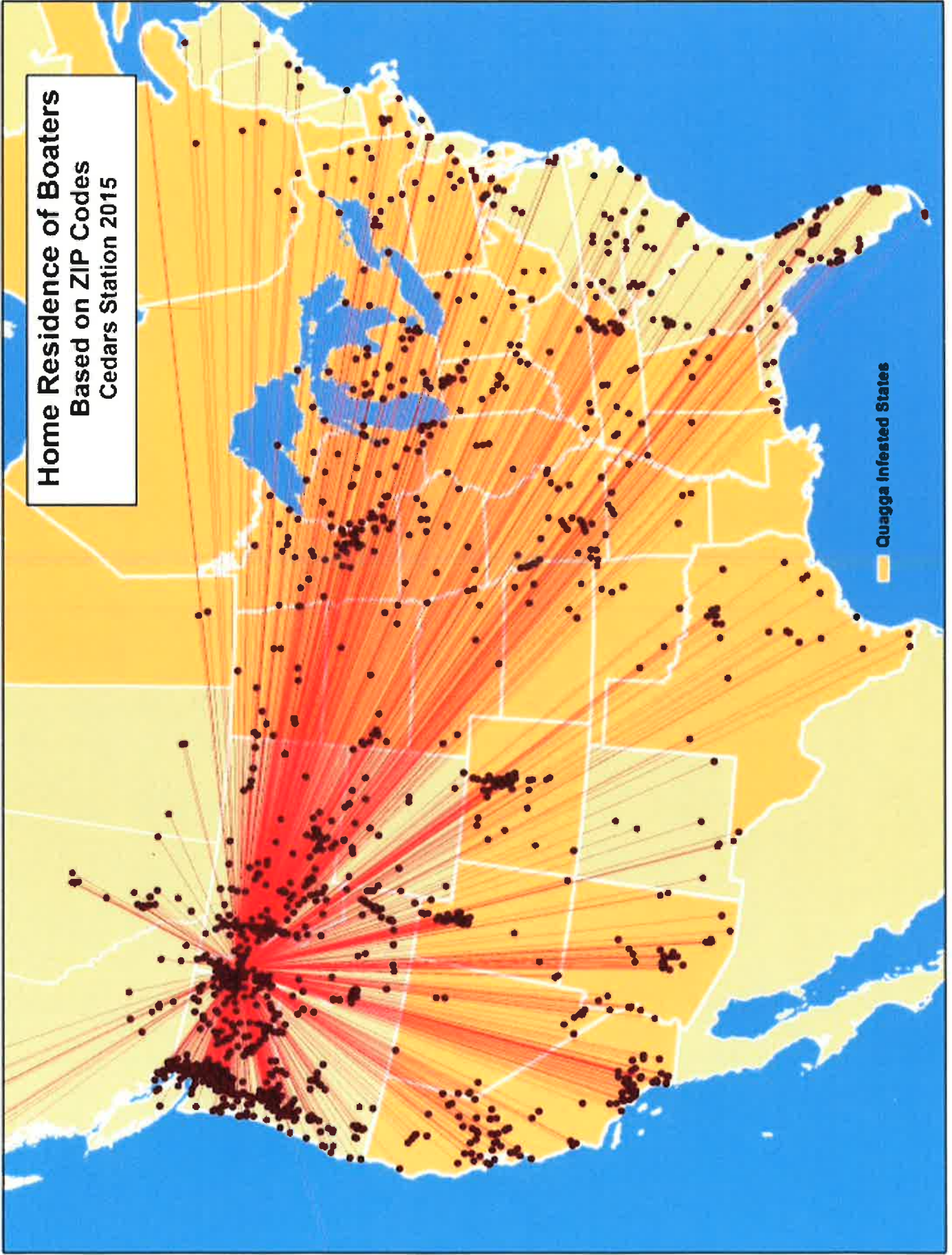
- ### 2015 Idaho Watercraft Inspection Station Locations

Number of Watercraft Inspected by Year



**Home Residence of Boaters
Based on ZIP Codes
Cedars Station 2015**

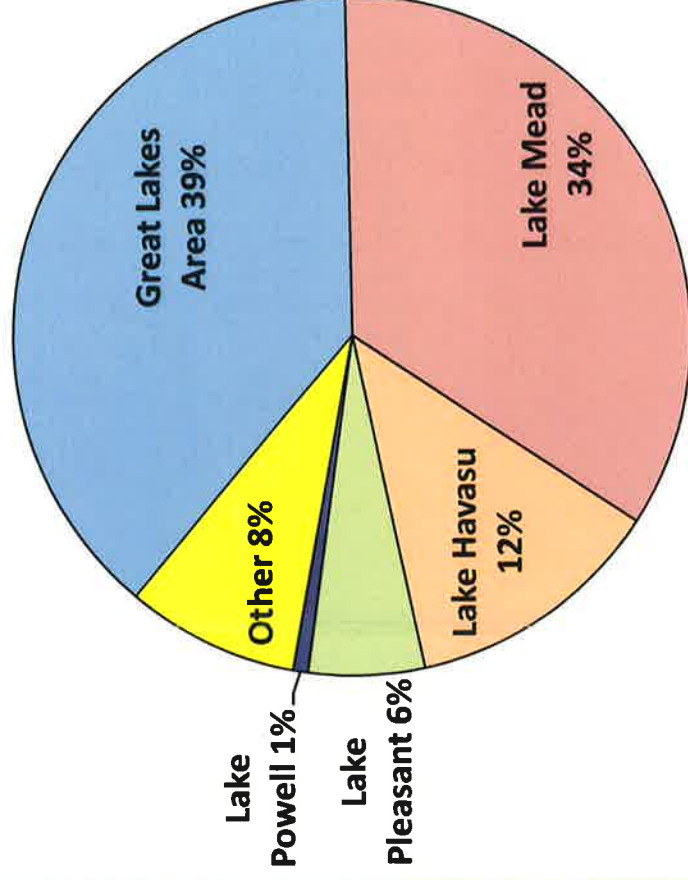
Quagga Infested States



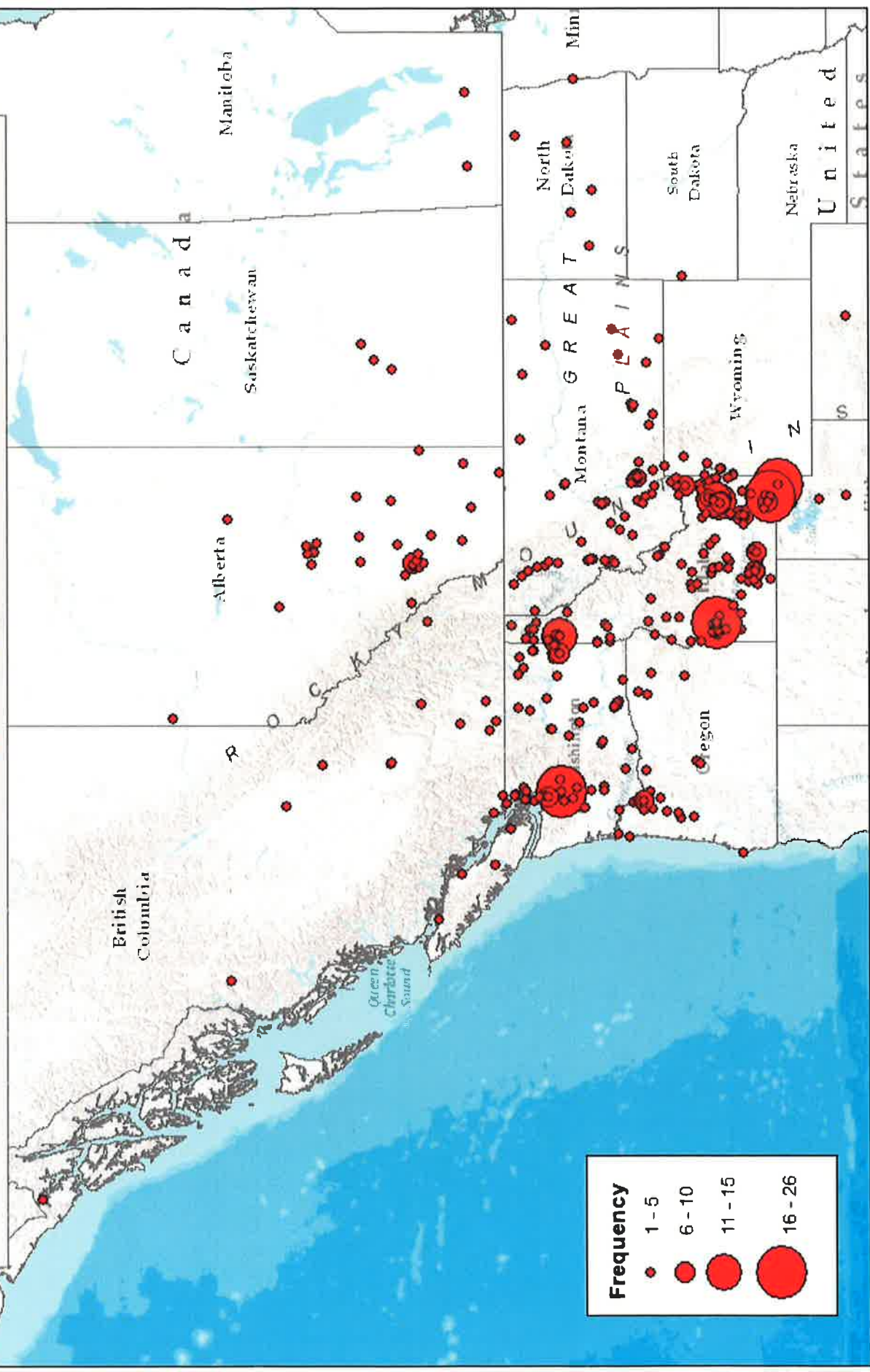
Zebra / Quagga Mussels

- 145 vessels intercepted with mussels since 2009.
- Similar observations from other NW inspection programs
- Efforts in NV and AZ are beginning to provide notification of boat movement.

Source of Mussel Vessels
2009 - 2015 (n=145)

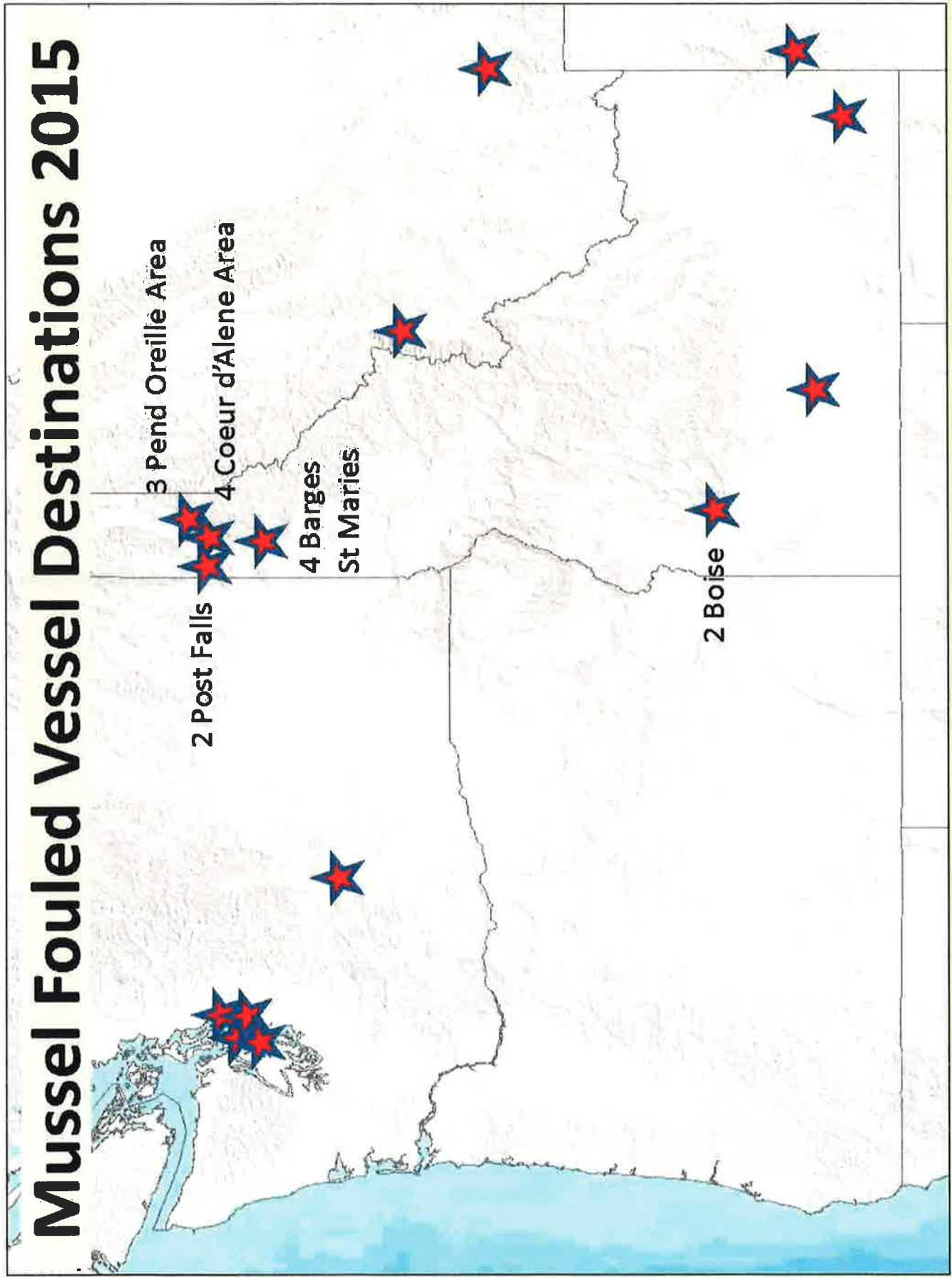


Idaho Watercraft Inspection 2015: Destination Following Recent Visits to Mussel Positive Waters



Date	Origin	Destination	Vessel Type	Out of Water for Less Than 30 Days	Vessel Recently Purchased	Commercial Transport	ISDA Notified Prior to Interception
1/21/2015	Mead Lake, NV	Hagerman, ID	Cabin Cruiser		yes		NDOW
2/20/2015	Mead Lake, NV	Bozeman, MT	Cabin Cruiser 31'	yes	yes		NDOW
3/4/2015	Mead Lake, NV	Post Falls, ID	House Boat 65'	yes	yes	yes	NDOW
3/14/2015	Lake Havasu, AZ	Hope, ID	Pontoon 21'	yes			AZGF
3/17/2015	Lake Pleasant, AZ	Coeur d'Alene, ID	Cabin Cruiser 31'	yes	yes		AZGF
3/23/2015	Lake Havasu, AZ	Hamilton, MT	Pontoon 21'	yes			CDFW
4/19/2015	Clinton, TN	Hayden, ID	Pontoon 26'	yes	yes	yes	
5/5/2015	Mead Lake, NV	Coeur d'Alene, ID	Cabin Cruiser 34'		yes	yes	NDOW
5/26/2015	Lake Michigan, MI	Pend Oreille, ID	Fishing Boat 18'		yes		
5/31/2015	Long Lake, MN	Alpine, WY	Ski Boat		yes		
6/5/2015	Illinois	Vashon Island, WA	Pontoon Boat		yes	yes	
6/16/2015	Erie, PA	Hope, ID	Cabin Cruiser	yes	yes	yes	MTFWP
6/17/2015	Dubuque, IA	St Maries, ID	Floating Barge			yes	ITD
6/17/2015	Dubuque, IA	St Maries, ID	Floating Barge			yes	ITD
6/17/2015	Dubuque, IA	St Maries, ID	Floating Barge			yes	ITD
6/17/2015	Dubuque, IA	St Maries, ID	Floating Barge			yes	ITD
6/19/2015	Bay City, WI	Coeur d'Alene, ID	Pontoon Boat 27'		yes	yes	
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7/10/2015	Lake Michigan, MI	Seattle, WA	Sail Boat 32'		yes	yes	MTFWP
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7/20/2015	Lake Mead, NV	Boise, ID	Cabin Cruiser		yes		UTDWR
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9/11/2015	Hudson Lake, IN	Naches, WA	Pontoon	yes	yes		
9/22/2015	Lake George, NY	Boise, ID	Fishing Boat		yes		
10/1/2015	Cheboygan, MI	Post Falls, ID	Cabin Cruiser 31'	yes	yes	yes	ITD
Total: 25				11	18	14	16

Mussel Fouled Vessel Destinations 2015



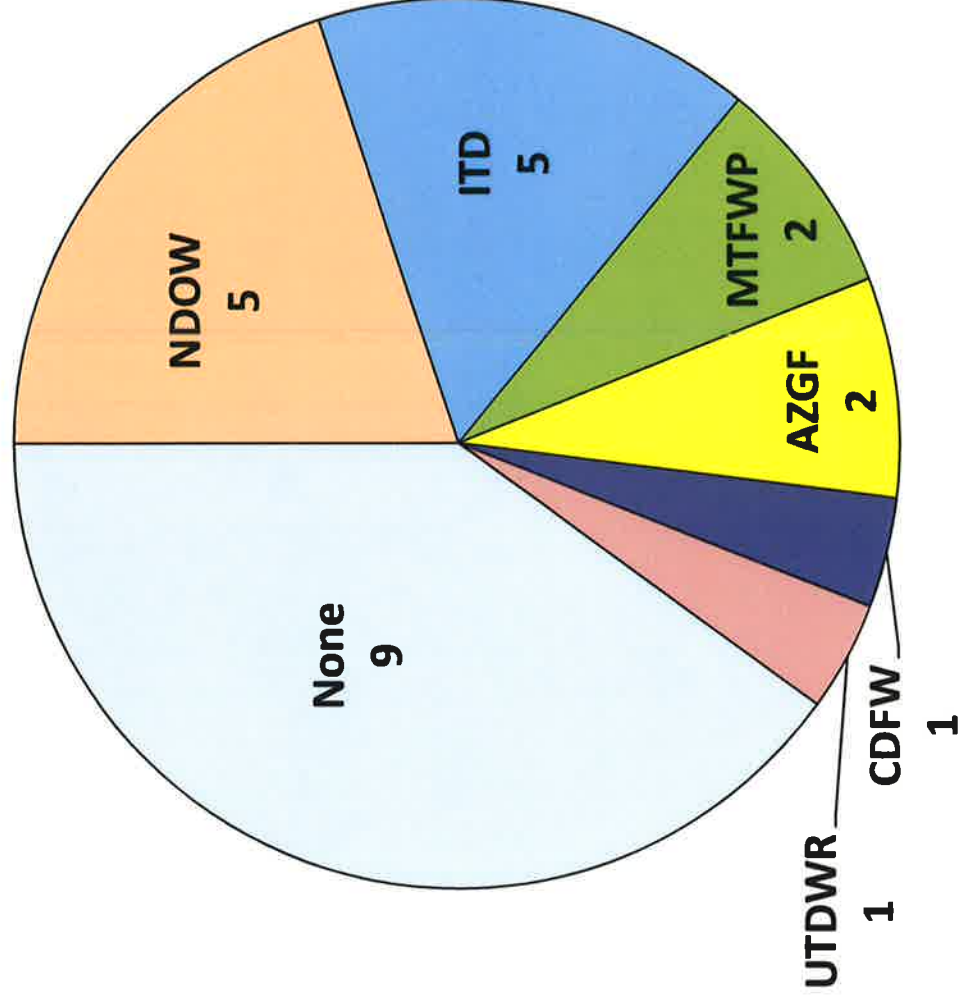
Stations 2015	Total Inspections	Weeds	Commercial	Hot Wash	In Mussel Waters in Previous 30 Days	Mussel Fouled Vessels 2015	Mussel Fouled Vessels 2009-2015
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Cedars	7,256	56	418	29	61	5	43
Clark Fork	3,284	12	4	5	7	2	2
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Glendale	1,584	9	1	3	11		
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Hwy 53	3,225	16	0	1	1		
Hwy 87	2,374	3	11	11	6	1	1
Hwy 93	1,423	0	32	167	161	1	16
Malad	3,699	1	14	231	274	2	17
Marsing	1,126	13	8	13	19		2
Redfish Lake	1,799	23	0	26	3		1
Roving Crew	928	13	0	3	2		
Samuels	3,165	11	3	3	0		
Treasureton	22	0	0	0	0		
Twin Lake	1,562	3	3	2	4		
Weston	199	0	0	1	3		
Port of Entry / House Calls						11	43
Total	64,157	296	861	660	839	25	145

Destination Notification

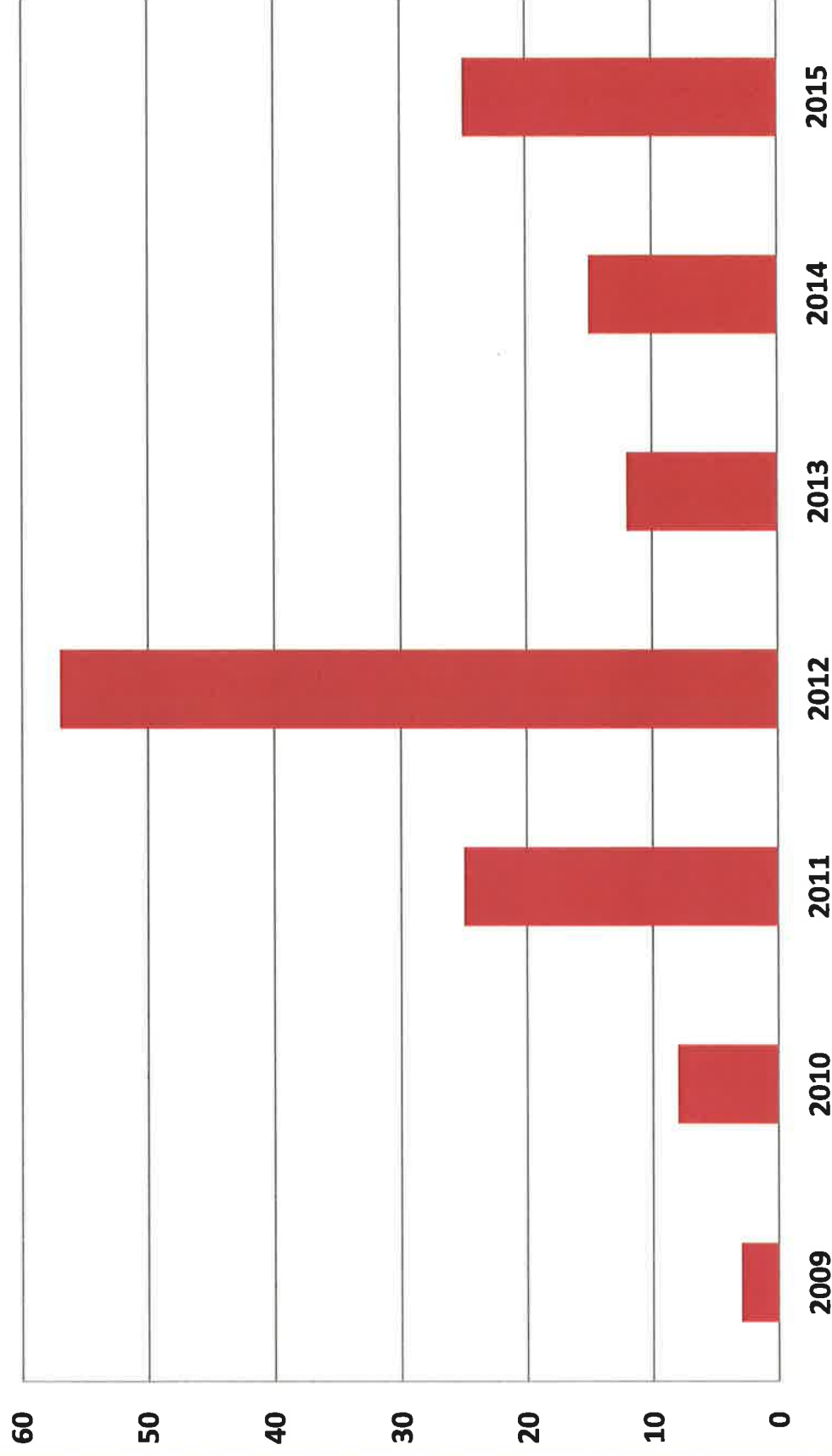
- Notification is the best way to ensure vessels are not transporting AIS.
 - Coordinate inspection upon arrival.
 - Decontaminate if necessary.
 - Held harmless under Idaho law.
- Roadside inspection stations don't see everything.



Previous Notification of Mussel Fouled Vessels 2015 (n=25)



Mussel Fouled Vessels Intercepted by Year in Idaho

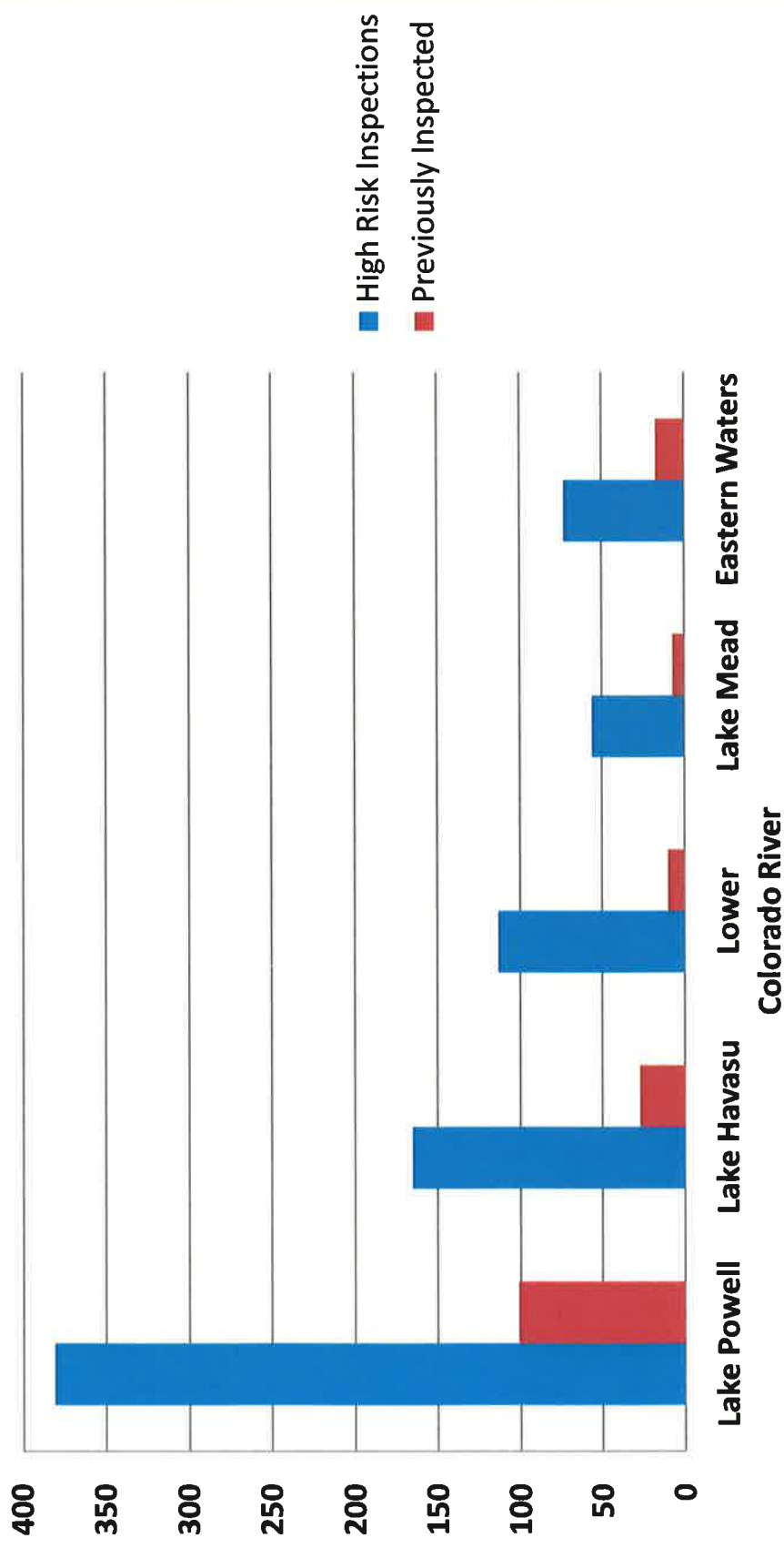


High Risk Watercraft

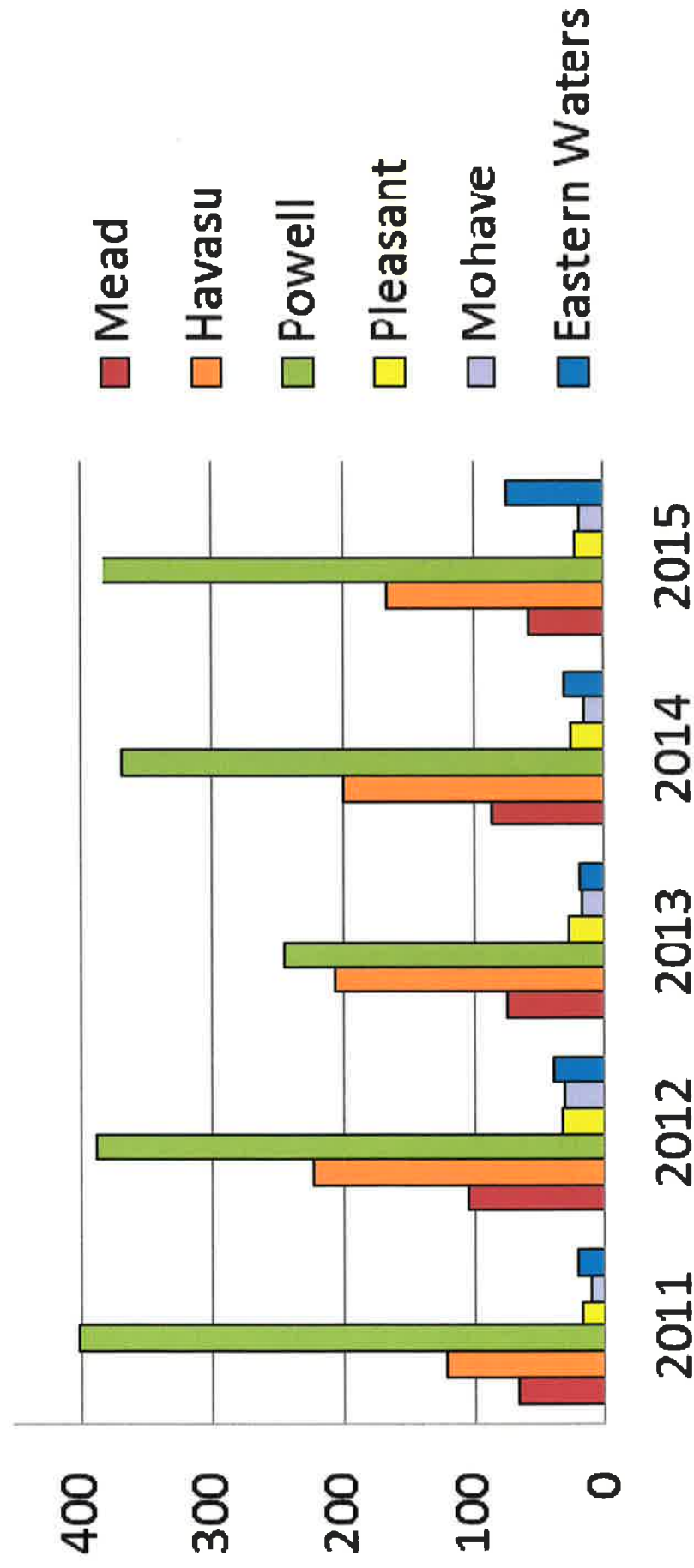
Final Watercraft Inspection Data 2015: Vessels that Visited Mussel Positive Waters in the Previous 30 Days						
Waterbody	Number of Boats	Percent of Total High Risk	Percent Previously Inspected	Average Days In	Average Days Out	Percent Non-Motorized
Lake Powell	381	46	27	5	6	7
Lake Havasu	165	20	16	25	7	8
Colorado River Above Mead	60	7	5	11	7	73
Colorado River Below Mead	53	6	13	26	8	28
Lake Mead	56	7	14	18	9	9
Lake Pleasant	23	3	9	46	13	4
Lake Mohave	19	2	11	12	11	5
Eastern Waters	73	9	23	20	11	26

Mussel Waters Visited in Previous 30 Days

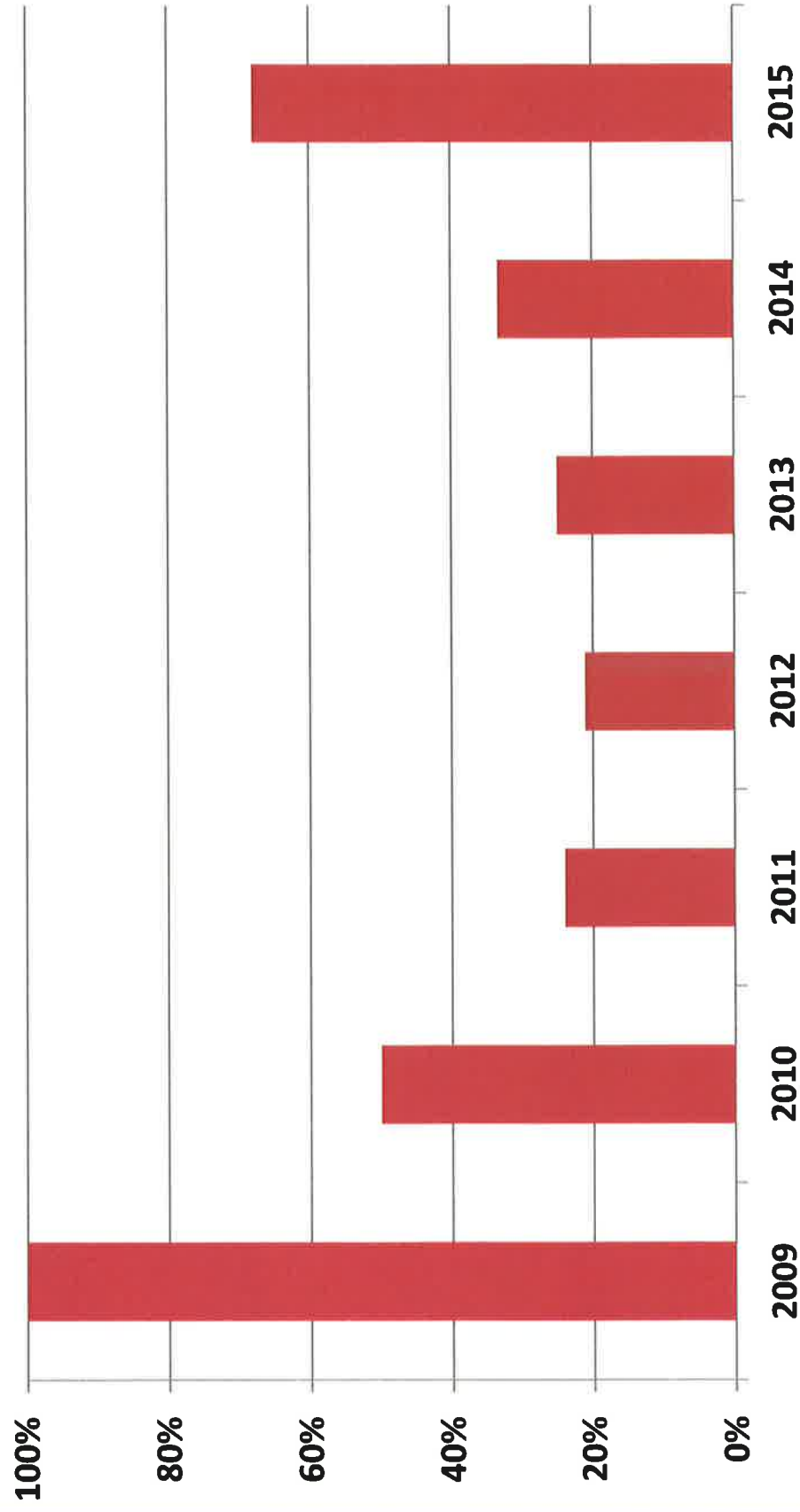
Idaho Watercraft Inspection 2015



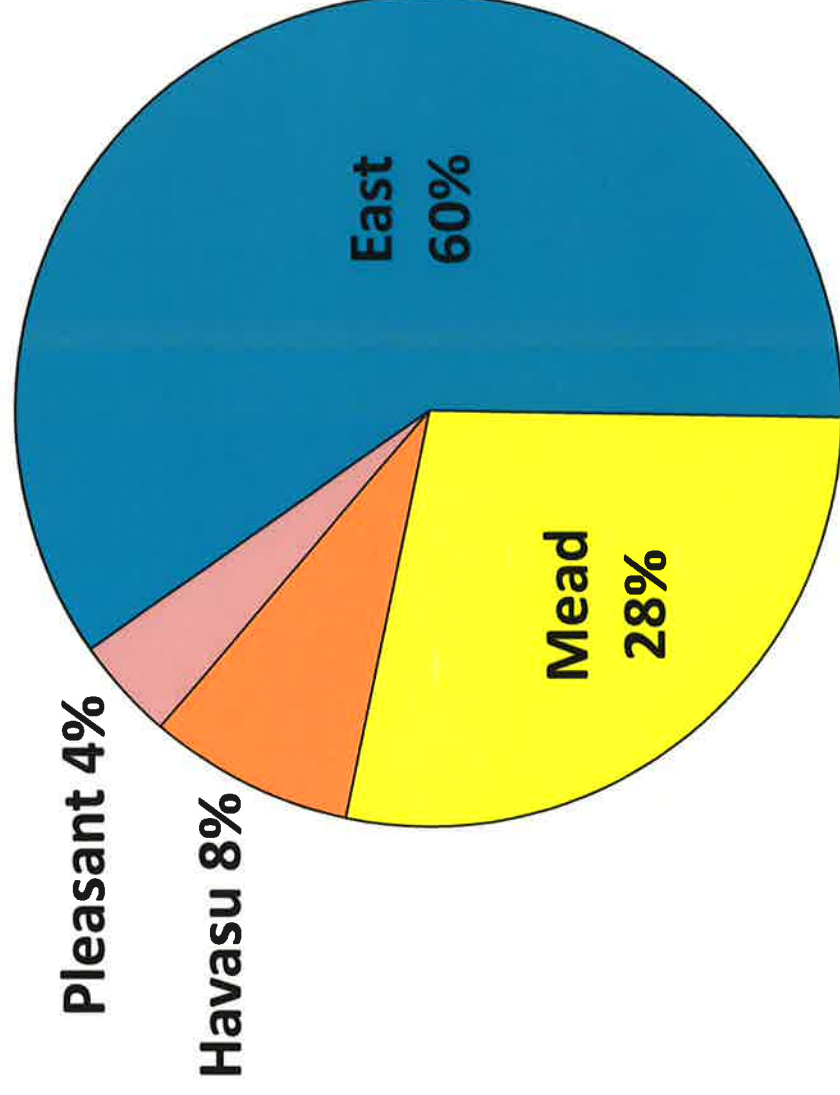
Mussel Positive Waterbodies Visited in the Previous 30 Days



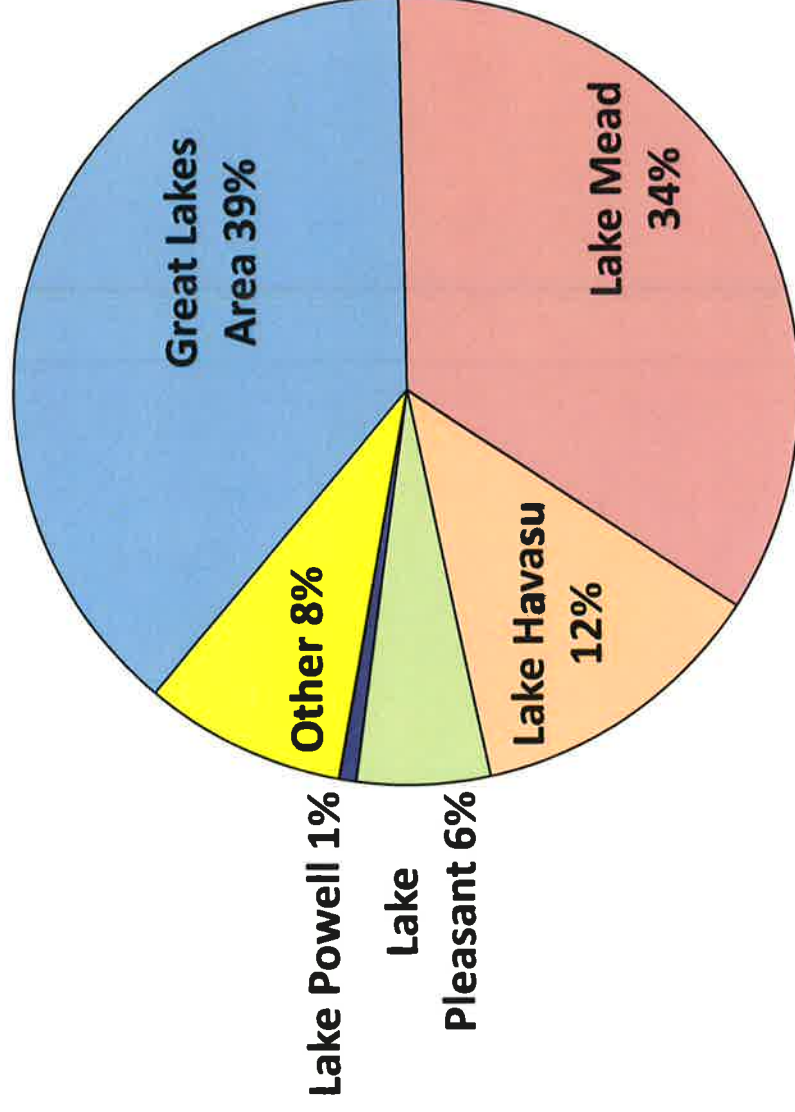
Intercepted Mussel Vessels Destined for Idaho



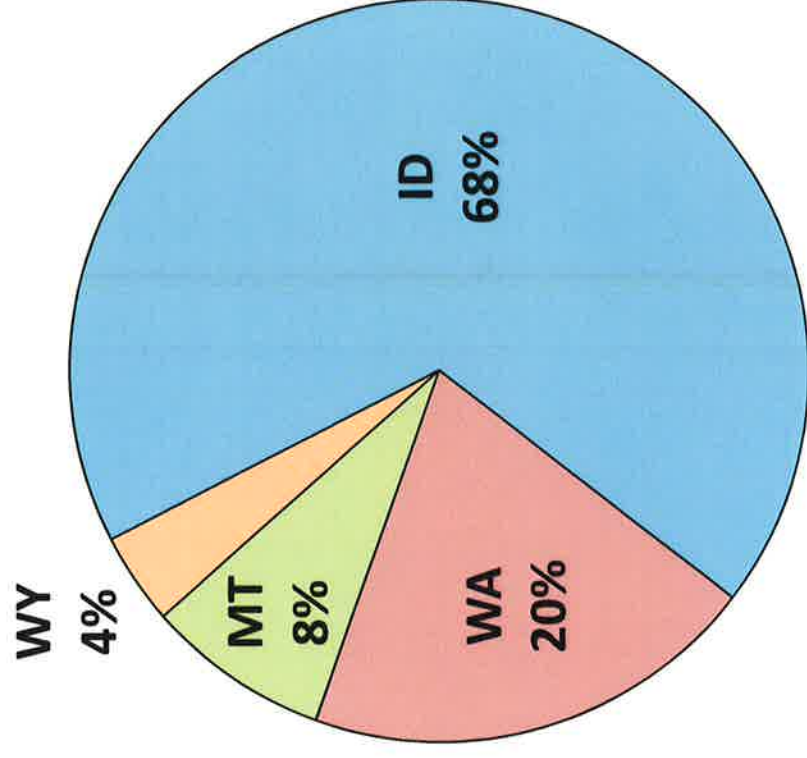
Mussel Fouled Vessel Source 2015 (n=25)



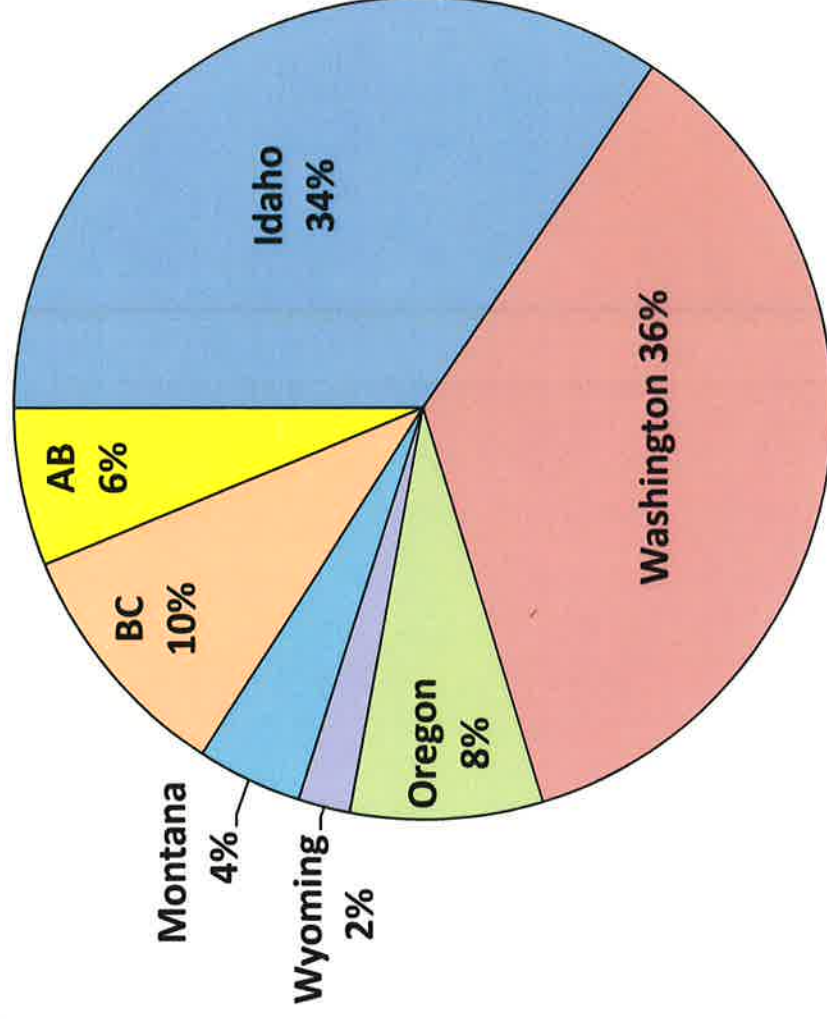
Source of Mussel Vessels 2009 - 2015 (n=145)



Mussel Fouled Vessel Destination 2015 (n=25)



Destination of Mussel Vessels 2009 - 2015 (n=145)



Protecting Idaho's Waters From Aquatic Invasive Species - 2015 Field Season

Idaho State Department of Agriculture

Intro

Inspection Station Locations 2015

Destination Locations

Home Residences

Home Residence by State/Province

Additional Inspections

Previously Visited Locations

Have you visited a lake that has aquatic invasive species in it already?

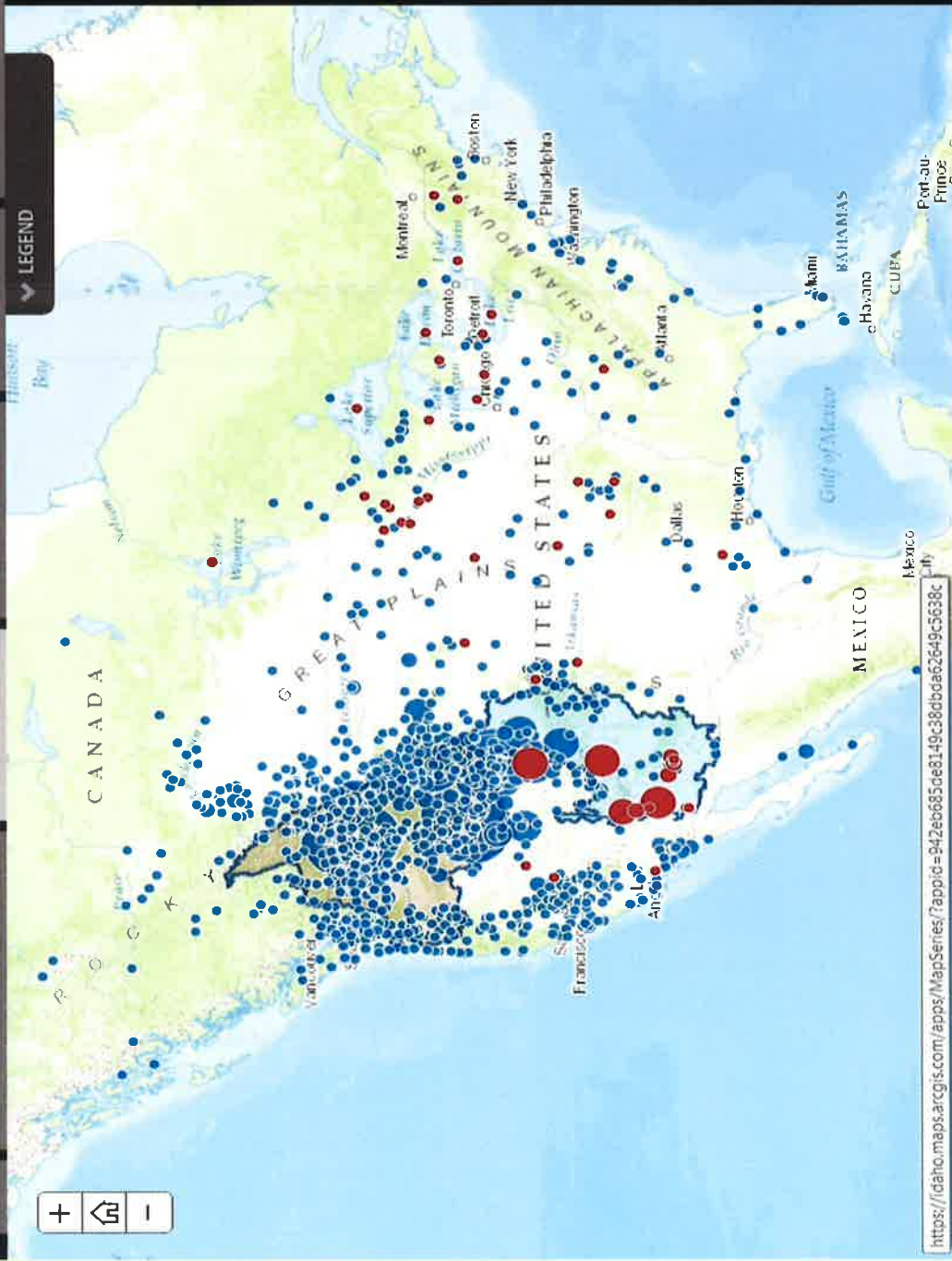
Unfortunately invasive species are moving from waterbody to waterbody by hitchhiking on boats, float planes, docks, trailers, and anything else that sits in the water.

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture is interested in where you have been before you launch in Idaho. As part of the inspection process, watercraft owners explain the waterbodies they have visited in the last 30 days to help the inspection crew determine what level of risk they pose to Idaho waters.

If the watercraft has been in an impacted water body in the last 30 days, it is then considered a high risk. High risk watercraft receive a hotwash (washed with high temperature water) to kill any organisms that may be present.

The highest risk to Idaho, the Pacific Northwest, and the Columbia River watershed for Quagga/Zebra mussel introduction is the lower Colorado River system.

Waterbody locations colored **Red** in the map on the left are Quagga/Zebra mussel locations visited by watercraft before entering a roadside inspection station in Idaho.

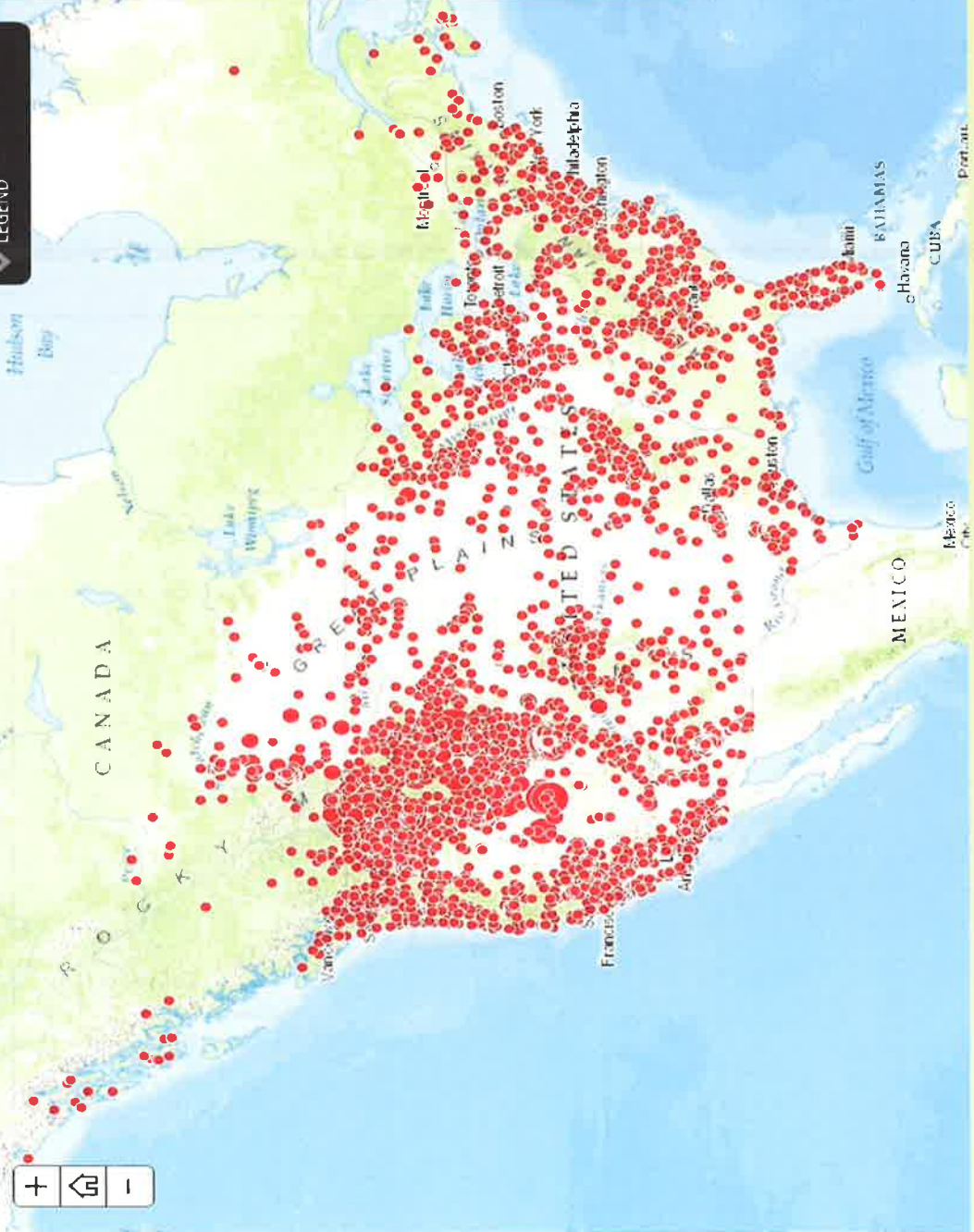


Protecting Idaho's Waters From Aquatic Invasive Species - 2015 Field Season

Idaho State Department of Agriculture

- Intro
- Inspection Station Locations 2015
- Previous Locations
- Destination Locations
- Home Residences
- Home Residence by State/Province
- Additional Inspections

LEGEND



Home Residence of Watercraft Owners By ZIP Code

Watercraft owners travel long distances to recreate. Whether they know it or not, they can potentially be transporting non-native aquatic invasive species as they recreate.

During the inspection process watercraft owners are asked what their home residence ZIP code is. This allows the Idaho State Department of Agriculture to map the long distances that people travel, and determine areas of high volume.

This understanding of where the boating public is coming from allows the department to determine if the roadside inspection stations are placed in the best locations.



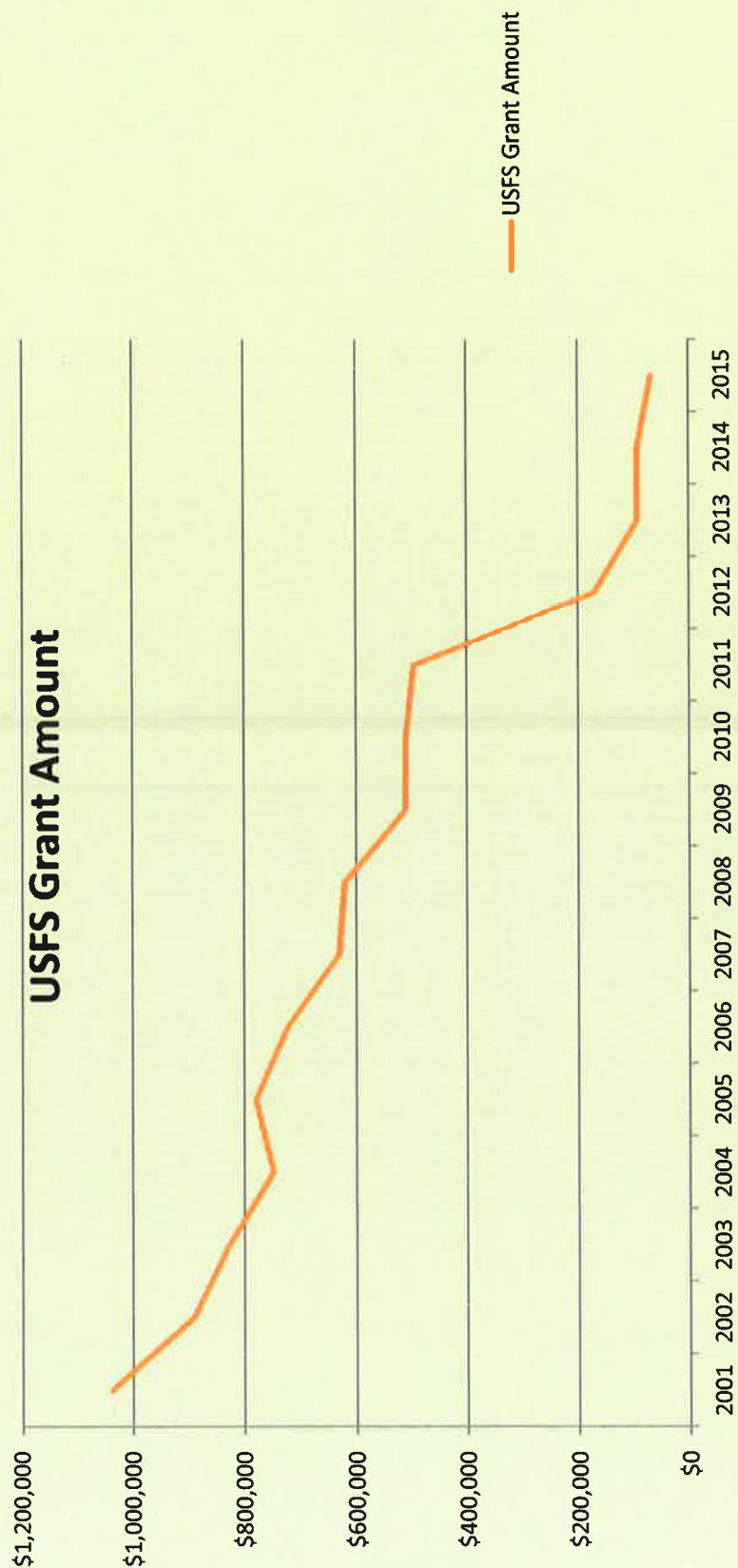
How Do We Know?

- Signs at all stations
- Signs at all borders
- Outreach and
Education



NOXIOUS WEEDS

Noxious Weeds Cost Share Forest Service 2001-Present

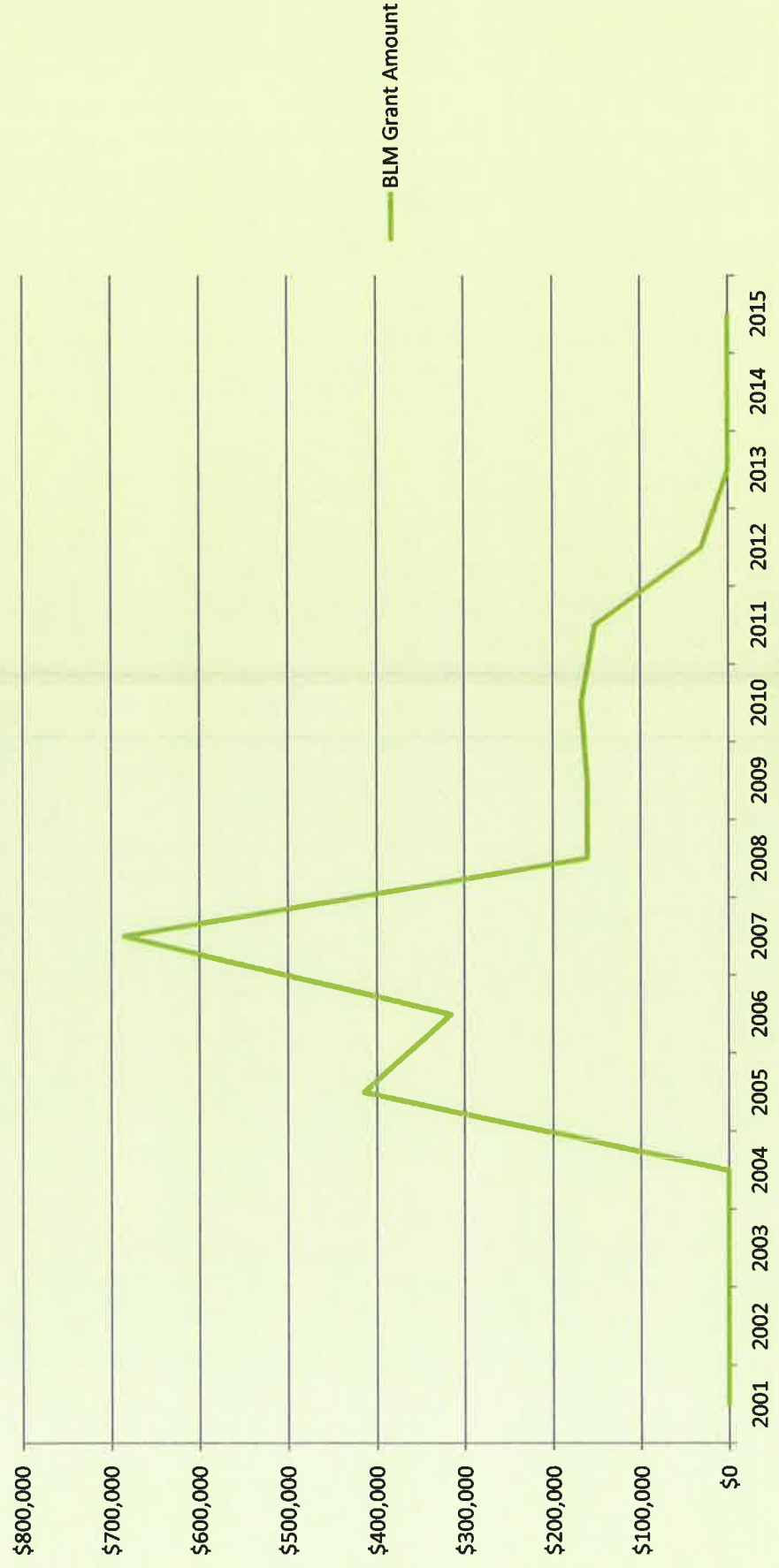


Noxious Weeds Cost Share

BLM

2001-Present

BLM Grant Amount

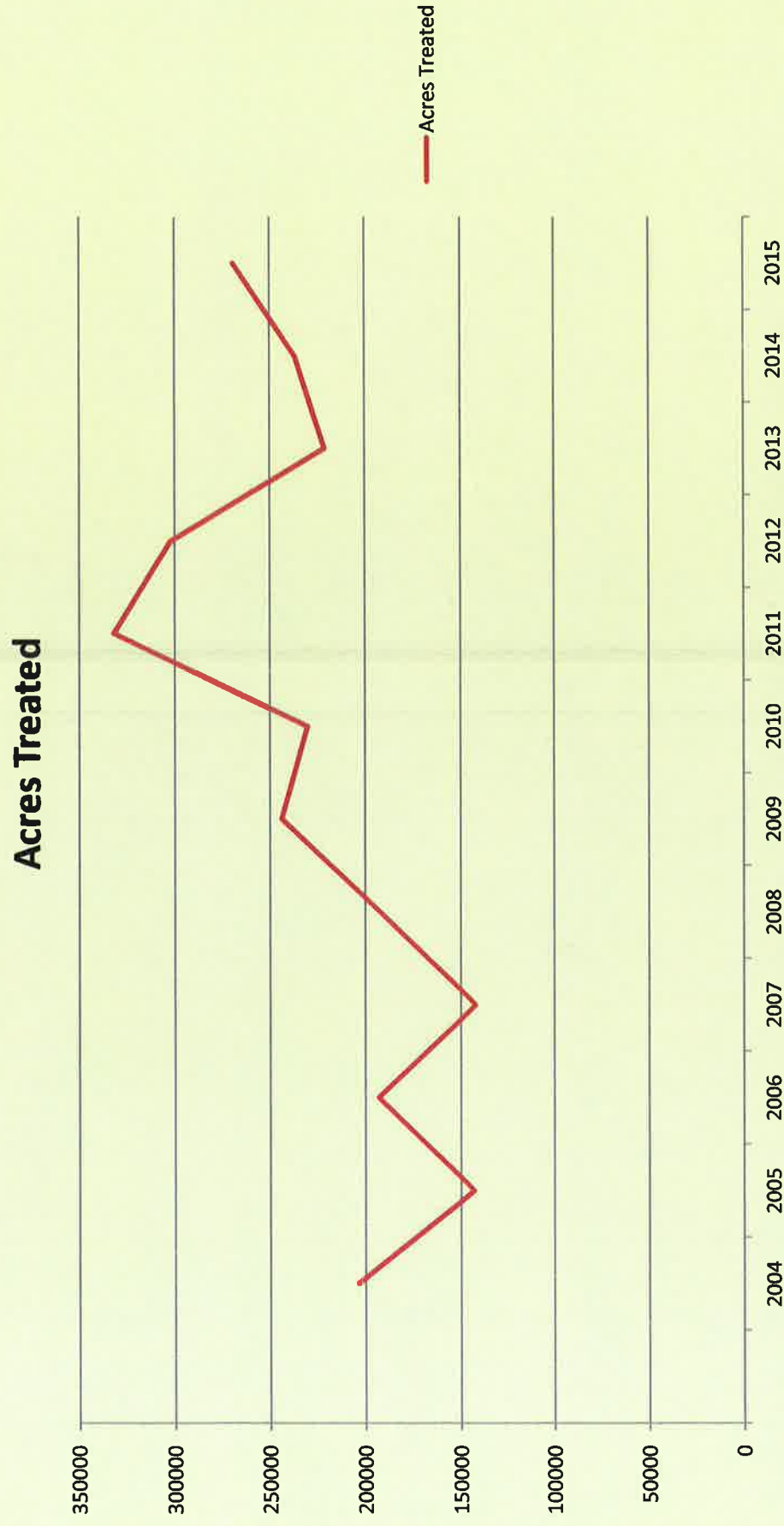


Noxious Weeds Cost Share General Fund 2001-Present

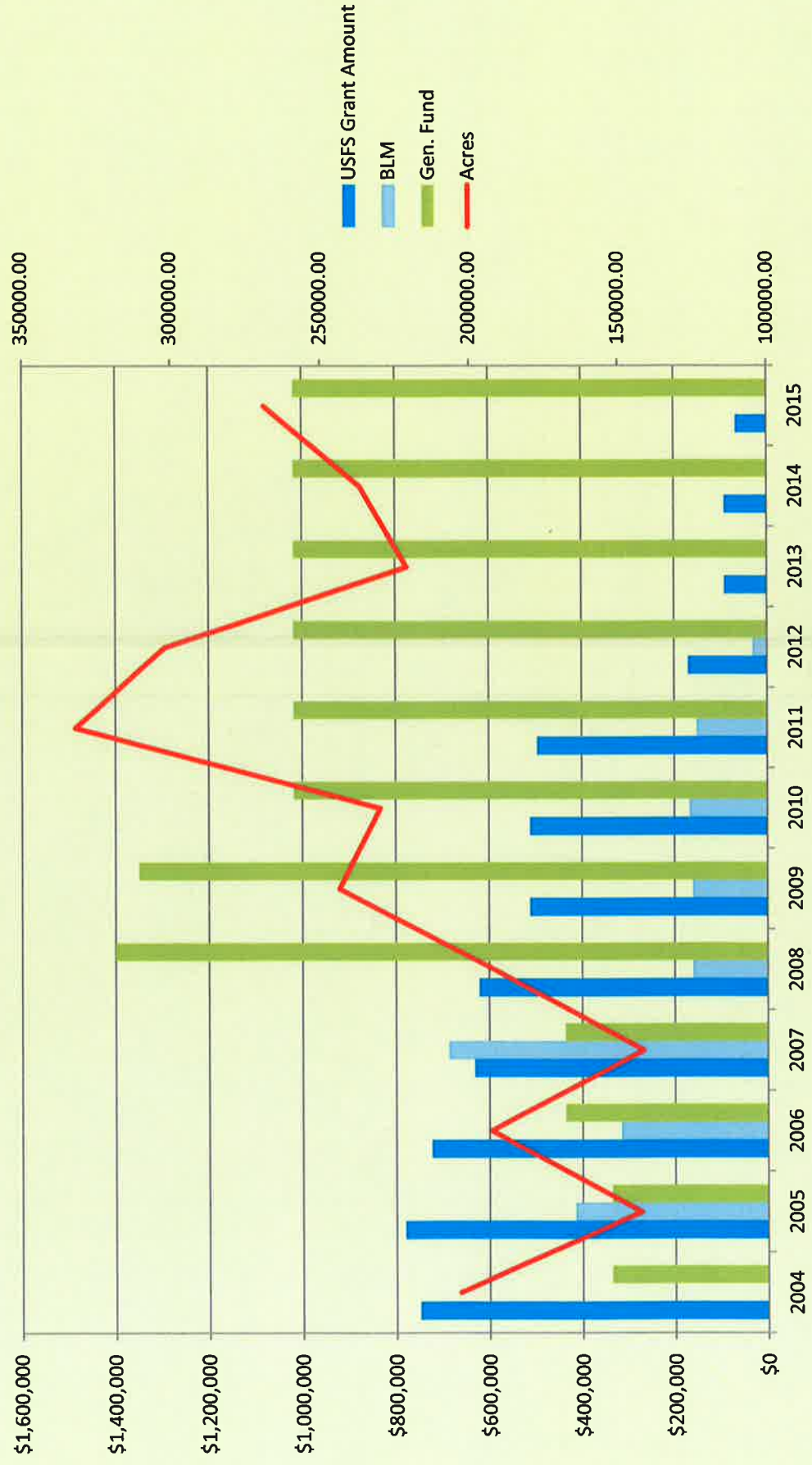
General Fund



Noxious Weeds Cost Share Acres Treated 2004-Present



Noxious Weeds Cost Share Combined Funding and Acres Treated 2004-Present



2009-2011 Idaho BLM Stimulus Program

- Funds Awarded: \$1.3 Million
- Counties that Participated: 29
- Hours Worked: 30,777
- Acres of Noxious Weeds Controlled: 11,192



2009-2013 Idaho Forest Service Stimulus Program



- Funds Awarded: \$4.4 Million
- Counties that Participated: 6
- Hours Worked: 184,596
- Acres of Noxious Weeds Controlled,
Revegetated & Fuels Reduced: 19,519



Cost Share Review Committee

- Director's Memo – 2008
 - No General Fund for Labor
 - No General Fund for County Outreach/Education
 - General Fund focus on killing weeds w/in Idaho
- Cost Share Review Committee – 2008
 - Formed at request of weed control community
 - 6 members from either IWCA, IWCC, or IAWCS
 - 2 at large positions – one county weed sup, one federal position
 - Review projects and recommend to the Director

Noxious Weeds Cost Share – County Duties

22-2405. COUNTY DUTIES. (1) The county control authority shall:

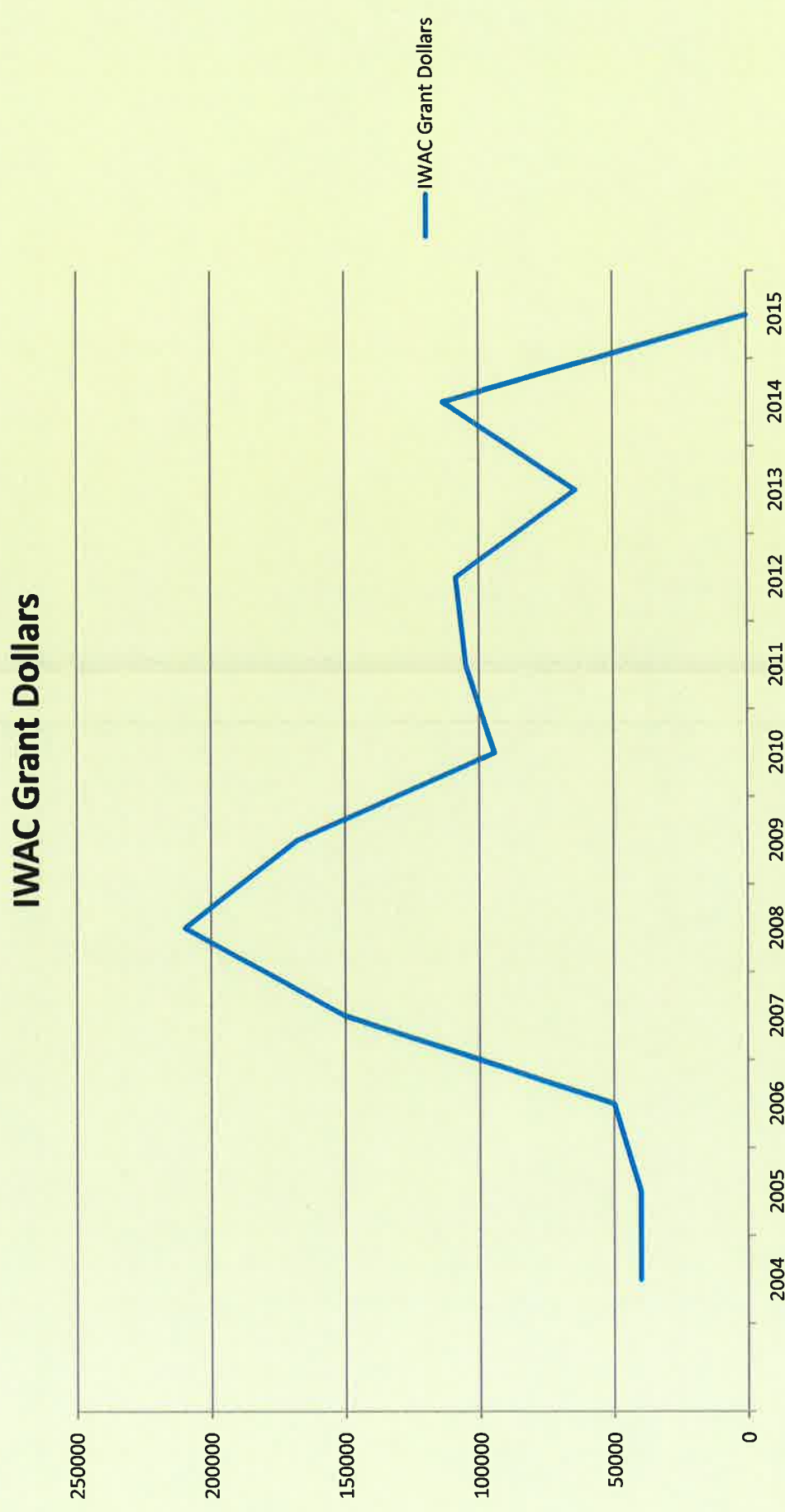
- (b) Establish and maintain a coordinated program for control of noxious weeds in the county; employ a county weed superintendent, who may be a superintendent for more than one (1) county and who shall be qualified to detect and treat noxious weeds; and...
- (d) Provide operational and educational funds for the county weed superintendent; and

Cost Share Review Committee

- Program Standards for 2016
 - No “education, outreach, or awareness” funding requests
 - No giveaways of free herbicide to landowners with cost share funds. Recommend landowner purchase for reimbursement for a percentage
 - Chemical purchased for private property only; not local, state, or federal lands
 - No county Rights of Way

Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign Funding History

Cost Share Dollars



Outreach and Education Campaign

- Cost Share Review Committee
 - Correspondence with IWAC prior to 2015
 - 2015 decision to not fund IWAC
 - ISDA met with committee twice after that decision
- ISDA Developing a Statewide Outreach Campaign
 - Includes Noxious Weeds and Invasive Species
 - Statewide Contract

CLEAN DRAIN DRY YOUR BOAT

HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF
INVASIVE SPECIES



2016 IDAHO BARLEY COMMISSION REPORT

IDAHO HOUSE & SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEES



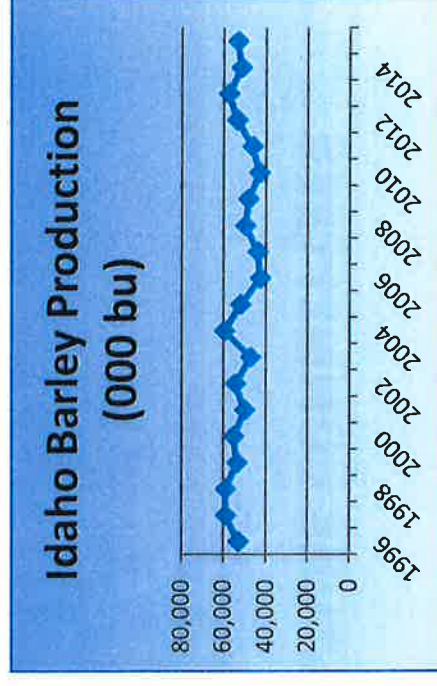
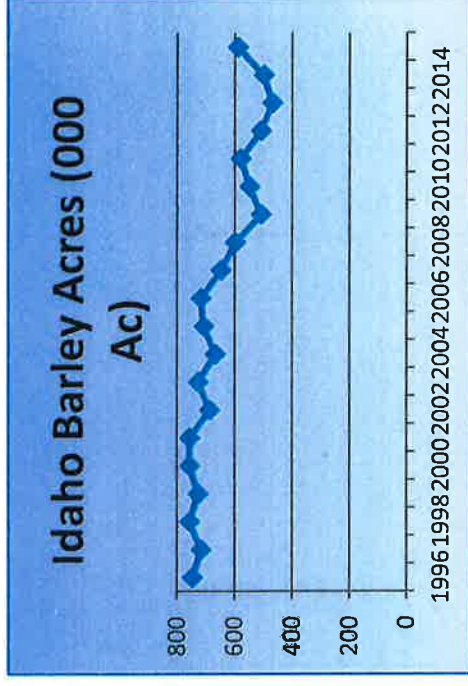
Kelly Olson
Administrator



CURRENT TRENDS

Idaho – leading barley producer in U.S.

- Harvested acreage - 550,000 acres
- Ave. Yield - 97.0 bu/Ac, +3%
- Output - 53.4 million bu, +3%
- 2015 farm-gate receipts \$286 million, +7% and 5th largest crop
- About 85% used in malt for beer.



IBC BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Income	\$730,003	\$605,843	\$692,566
Expenses	\$676,771	\$635,735	\$652,858
Reserves	\$509,848	\$480,485	\$520,193

FY 2016 Expense Allocation		
Admin	14%	
Research	48%	
Market Development	12%	
Grower Services	16%	
Info/Education	10%	

■ UI ENDOWED BARLEY AGRONOMIST

DR. CHRISTOPHER ROGERS

**University of Arkansas: Crop, Soil,
and Environmental Sciences**

- Soil fertility, plant nutrition, applied soil physics
- Research grants from UI, IBC, Anheuser Busch, MillerCoors and Brewers Association



**IDAHO
BARLEY
COMMISSION**

ARS BARLEY BREEDING

- USDA-ARS Aberdeen, Idaho (winter and spring, malt, feed, and food)
- Charles (winter, 2009), Endeavor (winter, 2010), Merem (spring, 2013).



IDAHO
BARLEY
COMMISSION

■ ANHEUSER BUSH BARLEY BREEDING

Private Breeding Programs:

AB-InBev – Fort Collins, CO

Malt barley breeding for Anheuser
Busch and some use by public groups

- ABI-Voyager (2014)
- Merit 57 (2010)
- Conrad (2007)
- Tradition (six-row, 2004)



IDAHO
BARLEY
COMMISSION

MILLERCOORS BARLEY BREEDING



Burley, Idaho

- Moravian 69 (2010)



THREE STAGES OF MALTING

Steeping (34-48 hrs)



Germination (80-120 hrs)



Kilning (12-48 hrs)



IDAHO MALT INDUSTRY



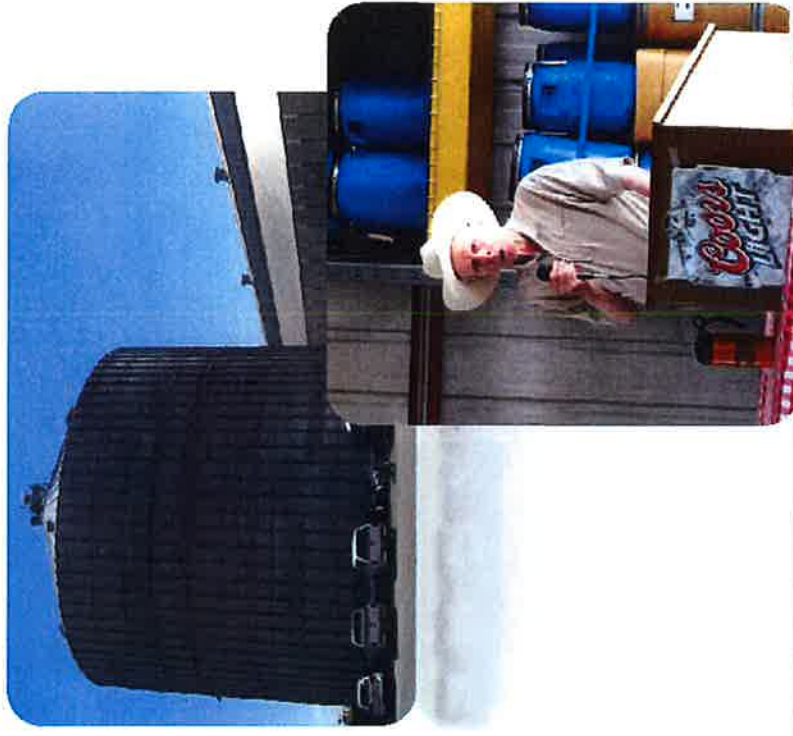
- Largest Idaho buyer
- Contracting since early 1970s
- Idaho Falls elevator & malt plant.



IDAHO MALT INDUSTRY



- 2nd largest Idaho buyer
- Burley elevator
- Contracting barley since 1969
- Contract program has doubled since 2008.



IDAHO MALT INDUSTRY

- First malt plant built in Idaho (Pocatello, 1981) and Vancouver WA (original plant 1934)
- 2009 purchased by GrainCorp (Sydney, Aust), world's 4th largest malt manufacturer with 14 plants worldwide.
- 2016 expanding Pocatello plant capacity by 130%.



Great Western Malting Co.



GrainCorp



IDAHO MALT INDUSTRY



- 2004 built malt plant in Idaho Falls (GModelo Agriculture Inc.).
- 2010 formed joint venture with Cargill Malt.
- 2014 Grupo Modelo purchased by Anheuser Busch InBev, so now joint venture between ABI and Cargill.



SUSTAINABILITY



1) Agronomic – yield/quality goal met

2) Economic – profit goals are met

If we use best management practices to meet goals 1 and 2 we will also meet our third goal

3) Environmental – minimize impacts



IDAHO
BARLEY
COMMISSION

DOMESTIC BEER DEMAND

Percent Change in Volume	Year to Date August 2015	Latest 12 Months August 2015	Calendar Year 2014	Calendar Year 2013	Calendar Year 2012
Total Supply	-1.0%	-0.7%	+0.4%	-1.2%	+1.3%
Domestics	-1.9%	-1.6%	-0.7%	-1.3%	+1.3%
Imports	+5.0%	+5.9%	+6.9%	-0.6%	+1.4%

2014

**Overall Beer
Sales +0.4%
Domestics
-0.7%**

**2014 Craft
Beers Sales
+18%
11% share**



FOOD BARLEY OPPORTUNITIES

Developing heart-healthy / high fiber barley –

- Barley has 18% fiber content
- Barley health claim – lowers bad cholesterol
- Barley is low glycemic carbohydrate
- 2 varieties released since 2008 by USDA/ARS. More in pipeline.
- Public (USDA/ARS & Oregon State Univ.) & Private Collaboration (Highland Specialty Grains)



Hosting technical seminars on formulating cereal products with barley (Asian and Latin

American customers). 2016 seminars will target domestic food manufacturers with Ardent Mills.

Launching Barley Nutrition Education with UI graduate students.



IDAHO
BARLEY
COMMISSION



Idaho Barley Commission 2015 In Review

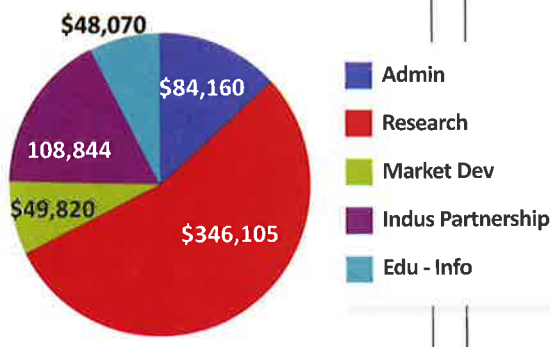
THE Idaho Barley Commission's mission is to enhance the profitability of Idaho barley growers through research, market development and grower education. The IBC's strategic investments are currently focused on these priorities:

- University of Idaho Barley Research Agronomist Endowment (five year investment totaling \$1 million)
- Sustainable production practices, including optimizing water and fertilizer inputs
- Pest and disease control
- Malting barley market diversification
- Food barley market development
- Barley producer risk management education.

Excessive moisture during the 2014 harvest caused serious quality and economic losses for Idaho barley producers and industry last year. The IBC immediately initiated an **Idaho Barley Crop Crisis Action Plan** that involved several strategies: communicating with producers and industry on testing procedures and handling recommendations for injured by sprout grain; assisting with county disaster declarations; working with insurance companies and the USDA Risk Management Agency on crop insurance issues and pursuing an aggressive feed barley marketing campaign throughout the Western U.S. There is

FY 2014/15 IBC Actual Expenses

Total Expenses: \$636,998

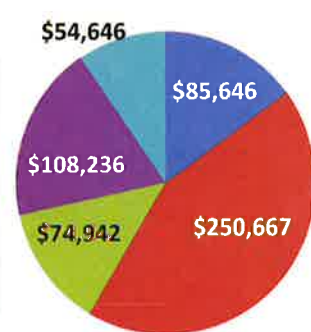


no way to sugar coat the serious economic losses experienced last year, but everyone in the Idaho barley marketing chain learned important lessons and we are better prepared for the possibility of future production challenges.

Because of these economic losses, the IBC experienced an income shortfall in FY 2015 but made some significant adjustments in its budget to trim its

FY 2015/16 IBC Approved Budget

Total Expenses: \$574,137



deficit. Furthermore, the board has taken a conservative approach in the FY 2016 budget to ensure that we maintain funding for key priorities while rebuilding reserves. We are anticipating a significant recovery in 2015 production and quality across southern and eastern Idaho, where at least 92 percent of the state's barley crop is grown. This is great news for our producers and important malting barley industry partners.

RESEARCH:

▪ \$1 million Barley Research Agronomist Endowment at the University of Idaho. Dr. Christopher Rogers was hired as the first Barley Research Agronomist last July and is based at the UI Aberdeen Research & Extension Center. Just one year on the job, Dr. Rogers has established a very comprehensive fertility and barley sustainability research program with collaborative research projects with the malting industry.

▪ Funding support for USDA ARS's malting and food barley breeding program based at Aberdeen, Idaho, with an emphasis on developing winter varieties adapted to Idaho's diverse growing conditions. ARS has established a collaborative barley variety development program with the U.S. craft brewing industry and Highland Specialty Grains.

▪ Disease control – IBC has supported two research forums in the past year to address rising concerns with the spread of Fusarium Head Blight (January 2014) and Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus (July 2015). We are supporting targeted research efforts at controlling the threat of both of these diseases.

▪ Long-term impacts of manure applications on malting barley production – this eight year study involves cereals, potatoes and sugar beets and is designed to develop recommendations for optimal manure applications rates and timing on basis of yield potential, grain quality, soil quality, disease pressure and nutrient uptake.

MARKET DIVERSIFICATION:

▪ We continue to work closely with our traditional malting and brewing customers on meeting their needs, including promoting sustainable barley produc-

tion practices. We also have initiated outreach to the emerging craft brewing industry across Idaho and the Western U.S. The craft beer segment is a growing market for Idaho – craft beers now represent about 12 percent of the U.S. beer market, but they use more than 25 percent of the total malt consumed in the U.S.

▪ We continue to expand our FOOD BARLEY INITIATIVE, including development of high fiber barley varieties (ARS and Highland Specialty Grains), new product development using barley as a key ingredient and use of barley foods in school meals.

▪ We have targeted barley export markets in Latin America (malting) and Asia (food), by participating in market development programs sponsored by the U.S. Grains Council, a non-profit export market development organization based in Washington, D.C. with overseas programs in more than 50 markets around the world.

GROWER SERVICES:

▪ We worked closely with the North Dakota Barley Council on the final development of a new Malting Barley Revenue Insurance Endorsement that will be available for Idaho malting barley producers in 2016. This policy provides better coverage for both contract and non-contract malting barley production, including optional units, with a revenue component priced off of Chicago wheat futures.

▪ We teamed up with the University of Idaho Extension team in southern Idaho to organize and deliver nine workshops on the 2014 Farm Bill and Crop Insurance last December and January. More than 500 producers attended these workshops across the state, stretching from St. Anthony to Bonners Ferry. The



New Eastern Idaho Commissioner Scott Brown inspects his Soda Springs barley fields.

southern and eastern Idaho workshops also included discussions on why pro-harvest sprouting is a concern to malting barley and wheat customers.

▪ We continue to work with local county extension faculty in offering grain marketing and risk management education across the state. Since 2001, the IBC has won more than \$155,000 in competitive federal grants from the Western Center for Risk Management Education to conduct producer education in managing production and marketing risks. Highlights last year included local Grain Marketing Strategies workshops featuring Brian Ryland with CHS Hedging in Minneapolis and webinars on diverse topics including: Understanding 2014 Harvest Weather Events; Summer 2015 Weather and Water Outlook; Basics of Grain Basis; Cereal Best Management Practices; 2014 Farm Bill Program Details; and 2015 U.S. Economic & Grain Market Outlook. ■

2013-2014 Idaho Winter Wheat Variety Performance Tests and 2012-2014 Yield Summaries

Table 5. Dryland Winter Variety Performance in Southern Idaho, 2014

	Ririe Yield bu/acre	Test Weight lb/bu	Spring Stand (%)	Heading Date	Height (in)	Protein (%)
Soft White Winter Wheat						
SY Ovation	26.0	52.9	100	6/15	19	15.5
Eltan	25.7	50.2	100	6/21	21	16.6
Madsen / Eltan	25.4	51.1	96	6/19	21	15.8
SY 107	25.0	49.7	97	6/16	19	15.3
UICF Brundage	24.8	49.0	100	6/15	19	16.1
Bobtail	24.6	47.4	99	6/15	17	13.7
Skiles	24.4	52.2	100	6/17	19	15.1
Bitterroot	24.4	51.6	100	6/19	19	15.8
Otto	24.2	50.5	100	6/22	21	16.3
Kaseberg	24.1	49.8	100	6/14	16	15.0
WB-1070CL	24.0	51.6	100	6/12	20	13.1
WB 528	23.1	53.0	97	6/15	19	15.2
UI-WSU Huffman	23.0	49.3	98	6/19	19	15.8
Rosalyn	22.7	48.9	98	6/19	19	15.2
Bruneau	22.6	51.2	100	6/19	19	15.4
Mary	22.2	51.4	100	6/14	18	15.2
Ladd	21.9	50.3	95	6/19	20	15.6
Madsen	21.9	51.8	99	6/19	20	15.6
Brundage	21.7	53.0	100	6/12	19	14.4
WB 456	19.7	54.1	100	6/12	17	14.2
Stephens	19.5	50.7	98	6/15	18	15.3
Average	23.5	50.7	99	6/16	19	15.3
LSD ($\alpha=0.05$)	3.9	1.3	4.8	2.2	2.1	

	Soda Springs Yield bu/acre	Test Weight lb/bu	Spring Stand (%)	Heading Date	Height (in)	Protein (%)
Madsen / Eltan	82.4	55.3	90	6/24	27	12.8
Eltan	80.8	55.4	95	6/24	28	13.1
UICF Brundage	74.9	55.3	88	6/23	26	13.2
Madsen	64.6	55.1	88	6/24	26	13.2
Brundage	62.5	54.7	87	6/19	26	13.2
Bruneau	55.3	53.4	85	6/24	25	13.1
Stephens	53.4	52.4	80	6/21	25	14.1
Average	68.4	56.5	90	6/21	29	13.5
LSD ($\alpha=0.05$)	14.9	3.0	5.7	1.6	4.7	

Hard Winter Wheat	Rockland	Ririe	Average	Test Weight	Spring Stand	Heading Date	Height	Protein
Variety	bu/acre	bu/acre	bu/acre	lb/bu	(%)	Julian	(in)	(%)
AP503 CL2	37.2	18.7	28	59.0	98	157	19	12.5
Bearpaw	34.2	18.0	26	58.4	97	159	18	12.3
Curlew	42.7	21.9	32	59.2	99	159	24	12.4
Deloris	38.1	23.5	31	58.6	98	161	25	11.5
Garland	32.4	19.7	26	56.4	98	161	15	12.5
Garland/Juniper	37.2	18.9	28	58.3	98	161	26	12.4
Golden Spike (W)	39.1	18.3	29	56.8	98	161	21	12.6
Greenville	37.4	19.9	29	57.5	98	160	18	10.9
Judee	37.0	16.8	27	59.6	98	160	19	12.0
Juniper	37.2	25.8	32	59.8	97	160	25	13.0
Juniper / Promontory	39.0	19.5	29	59.6	98	161	25	12.4
Keldin	42.9	21.7	32	59.0	98	159	21	11.9
LCS Azimut	40.3	21.4	31	53.5	98	159	19	11.1
LCS Colonia	35.1	25.0	30	53.1	96	166	20	12.2
LCS Evina	28.1	20.5	24	54.3	94	167	20	12.9
Lucin-CL	36.8	21.9	29	58.7	98	160	25	12.8
Manning	27.2	19.6	23	58.5	97	159	20	12.6
Moreland	36.3	21.7	29	56.3	98	159	19	12.9
Norwest 553	29.1	19.2	24	57.8	91	164	20	13.3
Promontory	36.4	21.3	29	59.1	98	159	23	12.2
SY Clearstone 2CL	42.2	23.5	33	57.7	99	160	24	12.5
UI Silver (W)	41.6	25.3	33	60.0	97	160	24	11.8
UI SRG	43.7	20.2	32	57.8	97	159	24	12.6
UICF Grace (W)	32.1	21.5	27	57.8	96	159	27	12.3
Utah 100	40.1	21.3	31	57.8	98	161	24	12.4
WB-Arrowhead	38.4	19.7	29	58.9	97	158	22	12.6
WB-Arrowhead / Keldin	38.5	22.3	30	58.9	97	158	23	12.1
WB3768 (W)	40.1	21.3	31	58.6	97	162	23	12.4
Weston	36.7	18.6	28	59.6	97	160	24	13.3
Whetstone	43.1	19.7	31	58.9	99	156	20	12.0
Yellowstone	42.5	23.7	33	58.8	98	159	22	10.9
Average	37.4	21.0	29	58.0	97	160	22	--
LSD ($\alpha=0.05$)	8.5	4.1	6	1.3	4	2	3	--

(W) = White

Table 6. 2012-2014 Winter Wheat Variety Average Yield Performance

Site/years	Northern District		Southern/Eastern District	
	Rainfed	Irrigated	Dryland	
	18	9	3 soft, 6 Hard	
----- Yield (bu/A) -----				
Soft White Winter				
ARS-Amber	86	--	--	
ARS-Crescent*	80	--	--	
Bitterroot	--	--	22.5	
Bobtail	92	141.9	18.5	
Brundage	--	131.5	16.9	
Brundage 96	86	--	--	
Bruneau	91	142.9	21.6	
Cara	83	--	--	
Eltan	--	--	23.9	
Kaseberg	90	140.0	18.0	
Ladd	--	128.9	16.0	
LCS Artdeco	95	--	--	
Madsen	86	133.7	19.5	
Mary	--	136.3	18.0	
Skiles	--	131.2	19.0	
Stephens	82	134.2	16.8	
SY Ovation	--	141.0	--	
UICF Brundage	--	--	20.4	
WB 456	--	118.5	--	
WB 528	--	133.9	18.8	
WB-1070CL	81	129.1	--	
WB-523	85	--	--	
WB-Junction	89	135.0	--	
WB1529	--	131.4	--	
Average	87	134.0	23.9	
LSD ($\alpha=0.05$)	4	7.4	2.7	

Hard Red and White (W) Winter

AP503 CL2	--	--	22.2
Bearpaw	--	--	21.5
Boundary	86	--	--
Curlew	--	--	23.7
Deloris	--	--	25.9
Golden Spike (W)	--	122	23.6
Greenville	--	128	22.4
Judee	--	131	23.0
Juniper	--	123	24.9
Keldin	--	146	26.9
LCS Azimut	89	128	--
Lucin-CL	--	--	24.9
Manning	--	127	--
Moreland	--	135	--
Norwest 553	92	141	19.0
Promontory	--	135	22.0
Rimrock	90	--	--
UI Silver (W)	--	85	25.6
UI SRG	--	87	26.1
UICF Grace (W)	--	--	24.8
Utah 100	--	141	25.6
WB-Arrowhead	87	137	23.0
Weston	--	--	22.6
Whetstone	--	134	--
Yellowstone	--	142	26.3
Average	87	133.6	23.9
LSD ($\alpha=0.05$)	4	7.0	2.7

*Club wheat

(W) = White

Wireworms: Pest from the past

Research for future management

By Drs. Christopher W. Rogers and Arash Rashed

IN the world of farming it seems that at any given time there is something working against our efforts to ensure Idaho is continuing to produce high yielding and outstanding quality grain. These issues are often all too real for you as they directly cut into your returns and impact your livelihood. At this time of year, many of you are in the field and on the combine getting your grain in the bin and to market. However, it is important that we are always looking forward to ensure our upcoming year's crop, whether winter or spring grain, will be as profitable, or more, compared to the last. Many of you are aware that there has been a statewide resurgence in the occurrence of wireworms, a persistent and damaging crop pest particularly in the early seedling stage of grain. In this article and our upcoming University of Idaho Extension Current Information Series (i.e., detailed management and visual identification keys), which will be published this fall, we want you to be aware of this pest and your management and monitoring options so you can be thoroughly prepared to manage your fall and spring grain crops.

Wireworms are characterized by their hard, slender, and wire-shaped bodies that are less than an inch long. They are the immature stage of a group of beetles, known as the click beetles, and it takes them multiple years to mature. Wireworms are attracted to the germinating seed due to the release of gaseous compounds in the soil. Wireworms can result in failed seed germination due to their feeding on the seed and the emerging sprout. Post-emergence damage, caused by wireworm feeding on roots and at the very base of the stem below ground, can be detected through the presence of weakened and/or dead plants, a process that usually starts by wilting of the central leaves. At the field scale, damage is often seen as patchy areas of missing or weakened plants. Traditional environmentally persistent pesticide chemistries have been removed from the market due to environmental and health concerns, and the only currently registered chemistry (i.e., neonicotinoid seed treatments) for wireworms in barley and wheat are less effective, providing limited protection, and do not eradicate wireworms in the field. However, these treatments are recommended in fields that have historically had wire-



UI barley research agronomist Chris Rogers (left) and UI research entomologist Arash Rashed evaluate barley research trial at the UI Nutrient Management Field Day in Kimberly in July 2015.

worm damage. These neonicotinoid seed treatments are also effective at reducing cereal aphid populations, some of which are known to be efficient host carriers of the barley yellow dwarf virus, also known as BYDV. Another effective management strategy is to rotate with other crops such as sugar beet and potatoes where more effective insecticide chemistries are available to reduce wireworm population in subsequent grain crops. If you believe your field is infested or at risk, monitoring protocols can be implemented using "solar-bait traps", where pre-moistened wheat/barley/corn seed is inserted in a small hole in the soil and covered with dark plastic to attract wireworms so they can be collected and the severity of infestation assessed. Detailed instructions for this method as well as visual identification keys for the most prevalent species of wireworm will be available in the upcoming University of Idaho CIS publication.

In the past several years, the Idaho Barley Commission, the Idaho Wheat Commission, the USDA-ARS- REACCH, and the USDA-NIFA hatch programs have funded research to begin to address the wireworm threat facing Idaho grain producers. We have established numerous field sites statewide from Parma to Soda Spring as well as in Northern Idaho in multiple grower fields. Several species of wireworms have been observed and we are currently compiling the results from the 2014-2015 growing season where, during the 2015 growing season, we greatly increased our sampling program and added extensively to the monitoring protocol by investigating environmental soil factors including bulk density, moisture content, and temperature. In previous work in the Midwest, soil moisture content and temperature have been shown to be key predictors of wireworm activity in fields. Through the support of our Idaho grain growers and commissions, we believe our research efforts and intensive monitoring program will lead to an improved understanding of factors influencing wireworm management and control in Idaho. We hope you will find our upcoming publication a valuable addition to your management toolbox.

As always, we look forward to hearing from you as the feedback and contributions from all growers, county extension personnel, consultants, and barley industry stakeholders are crucial for creating a productive research and extension program to address the current needs of Idaho growers. ■



IBC Industry Representative Tim Pella, Anheuser Busch (left), examines malting barley at UI Bonneville County Cereal Field Day in July 2014.



A better shoe to help you put your best foot forward



2016 S-Series Combines with new Dyna-Flo™ Plus Cleaning Shoe

Who says high capacity can't go higher? The upgraded 2016 S-Series Combines feature the all-new Dyna-Flo Plus cleaning shoe that's lighter in weight and longer in sieve to raise combine capacity 10% in corn and 13% in wheat and canola in shoe-limited conditions. Not to mention it offers a 28% reduction in tailings volume.

That's not all. This system can be equipped with the new Active Terrain Adjustment™, which automatically adjusts your shoe settings when harvesting contoured land. So whether you're going uphill or downhill, the combine maintains ground speed and minimizes grain loss.

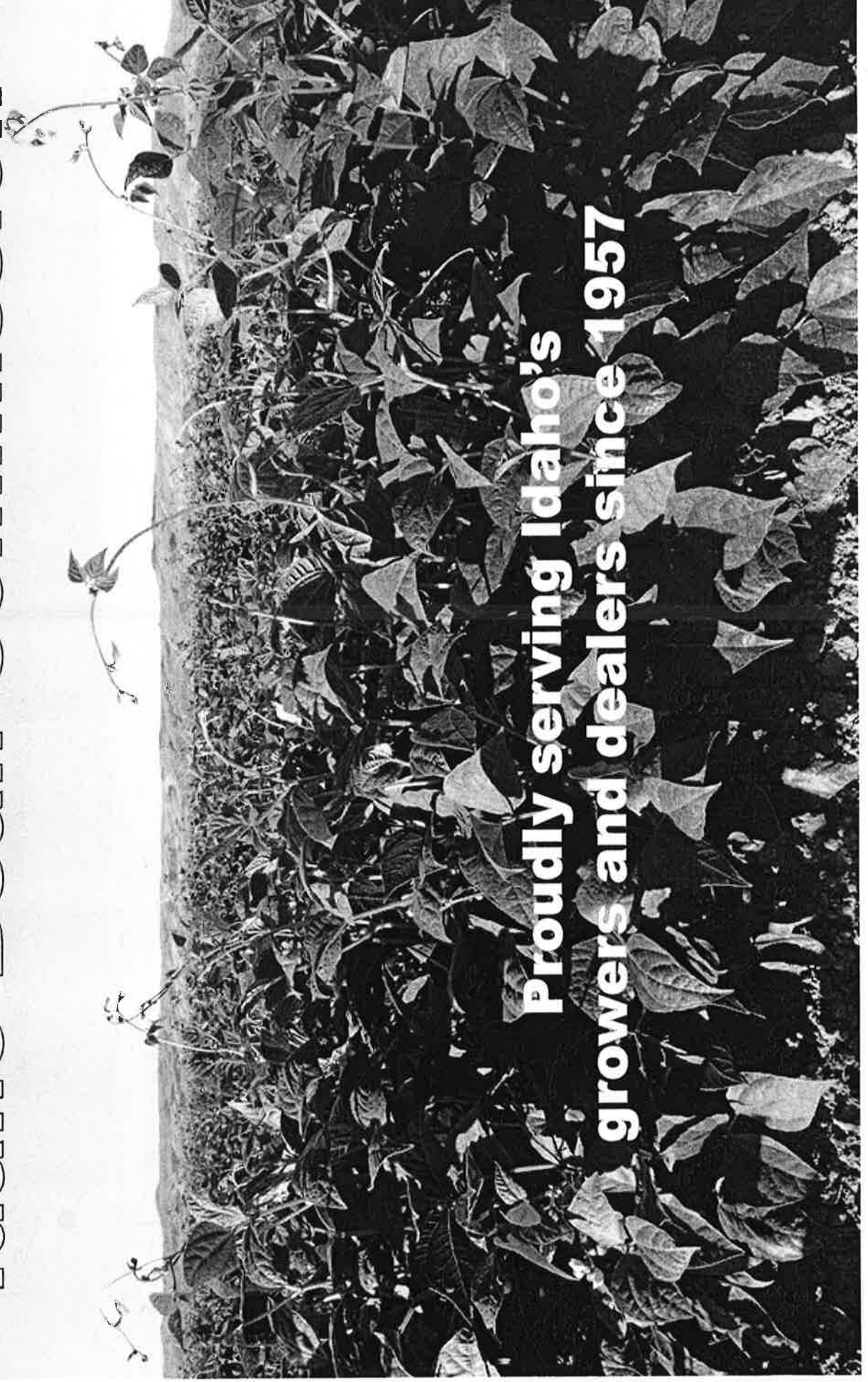
Don't miss out on our new premier in-cab solution: **Harvest Mobile**. It works directly from your iPad to deliver in-depth info on field performance by visualizing mapping layers so you can see exactly what's going on in your field. Ask your dealer for details. **Nothing Runs Like a Deere.**



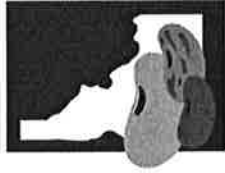
JohnDeere.com/Combines

Idaho Bean Commission

**Proudly serving Idaho's
growers and dealers since 1957**



IDAHO



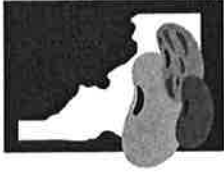
BEAN
COMMISSION

Mission Statement

**The commission promotes
Idaho's premier reputation
as a consistent, top-
quality, disease-free, dry
and green bean seed
producer, and promotes
beans as a nutritious and
healthy food.**



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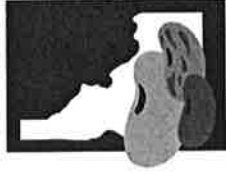


BEAN
COMMISSION

Objectives

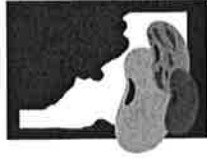
- Promoting Idaho Bean seed and consumption
- Supporting Disease, Pest, Cultural Practices, and Breeding Research
- Conducting Grower Education
- Educating Consumers
- Monitoring Policies and Regulations





2015 In-Review

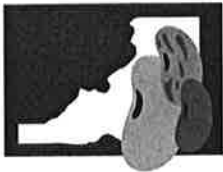
- **Successful re-introduction of Eptam 20g**
- **Change to annual Bean School**
- **Continued Efforts to Create Multi-State Bean Consortium**
 - Submitted SCMSP proposal in Dec. 2015
 - Meeting in Denver on Feb. 1st 2016
- **Expanding market in Costa Rica**
 - Cleaning up a red bean seed for a SCBG 2014 Grant
 - Costa Rica Project with Global Scholars in March 2015
- **Successful RFI Industry Research**
- **Hosted “Reverse Trade Mission” from Mexico**



Other 2015 Highlights

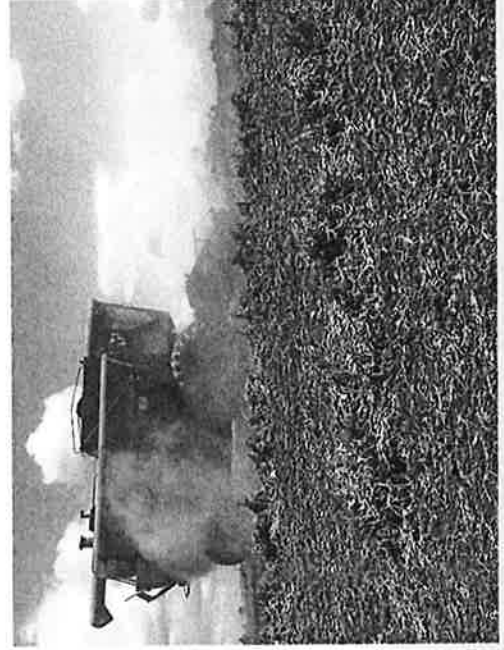
- Attended Agri-Action • CICILS - GPC 2015
World Pulses
Convention
- Ag Pavilions at
Western Idaho and
Twin Falls County • Idaho FFA Bean
Fairs
Committee Meeting
- Northharvest Bean • Industry Issues such
Day as water allocation,
fertilizer mine, etc.

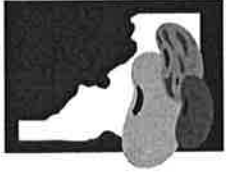
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Costa Rica





Current Grants

2013 Specialty Crop Block Grants

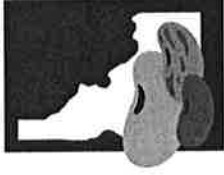
- Slow Release Nitrogen Fertilizer Trials (\$13,397)
- Trials and release of Yellow Bean lines (\$122,525)

• 2014 Specialty Crop Block Grants

- Developing season-long integrated weed control systems in Idaho dry beans (\$56,685)
- Developing the Bean Seed Market in Costa Rica (\$17,870)

• 2015 Specialty Crop Block Grants

- Water and soil conservation and weed mgmt for sustainable dry bean production (\$162,452)
- Novel genetic systems to develop bean varieties resistant to viruses for export to Mexico (\$99,020)



FY 16 Budget Summary

Reserves (June 30, 2015)	\$496,616
Estimated Bean Tax Receipts (July 2015 – June 2016)	\$168,111
Other – interest, etc.	\$ <u>500</u>
	\$665,227

Expenses Projected July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

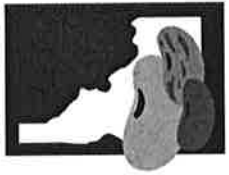
Research	\$ 65,930
Industry Partnership	\$ 83,850
Education and Information	\$ 39,800
Market Development	\$ 28,311
<u>Administration & Policy Development</u>	<u>\$101,846</u>
Total Expenditures	\$319,737

Grants Expenditures (SCBG 2013, 2014, 2015) **\$ 47,196**

Total Expenditures **\$366,933**

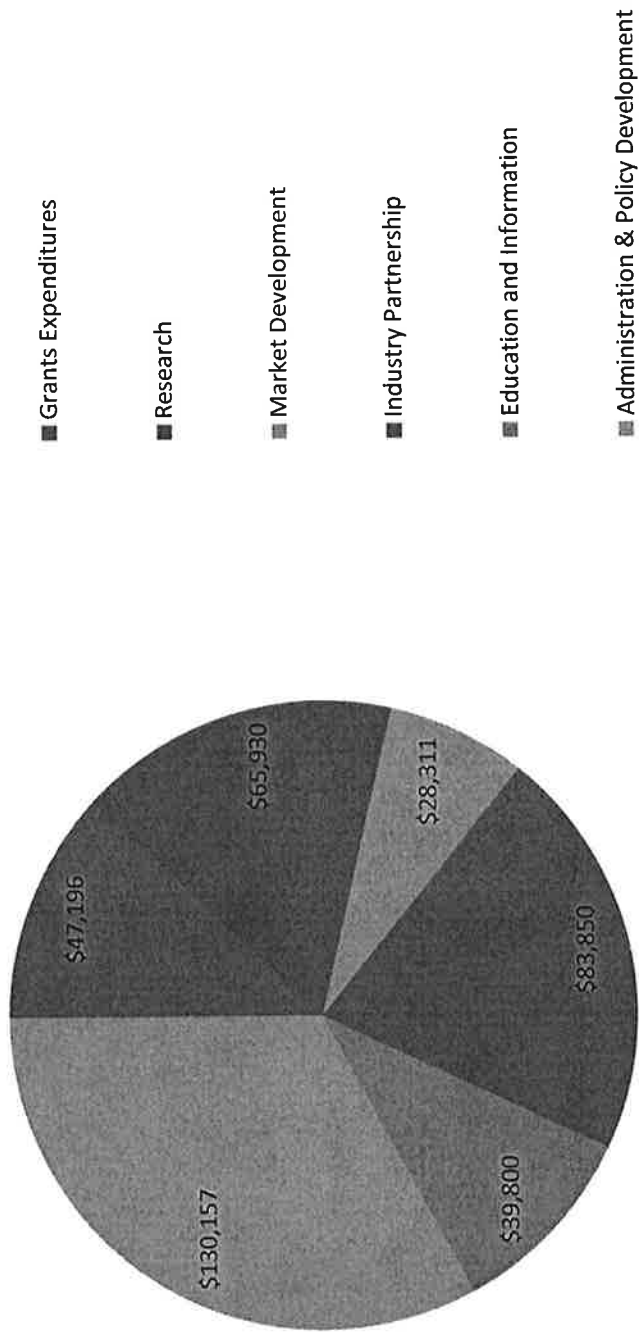
Estimated Reserve Balance June 30, 2016

\$298,294

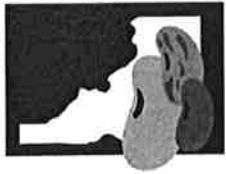


Budget Comparison

FY 2016 Proposed Expenditures

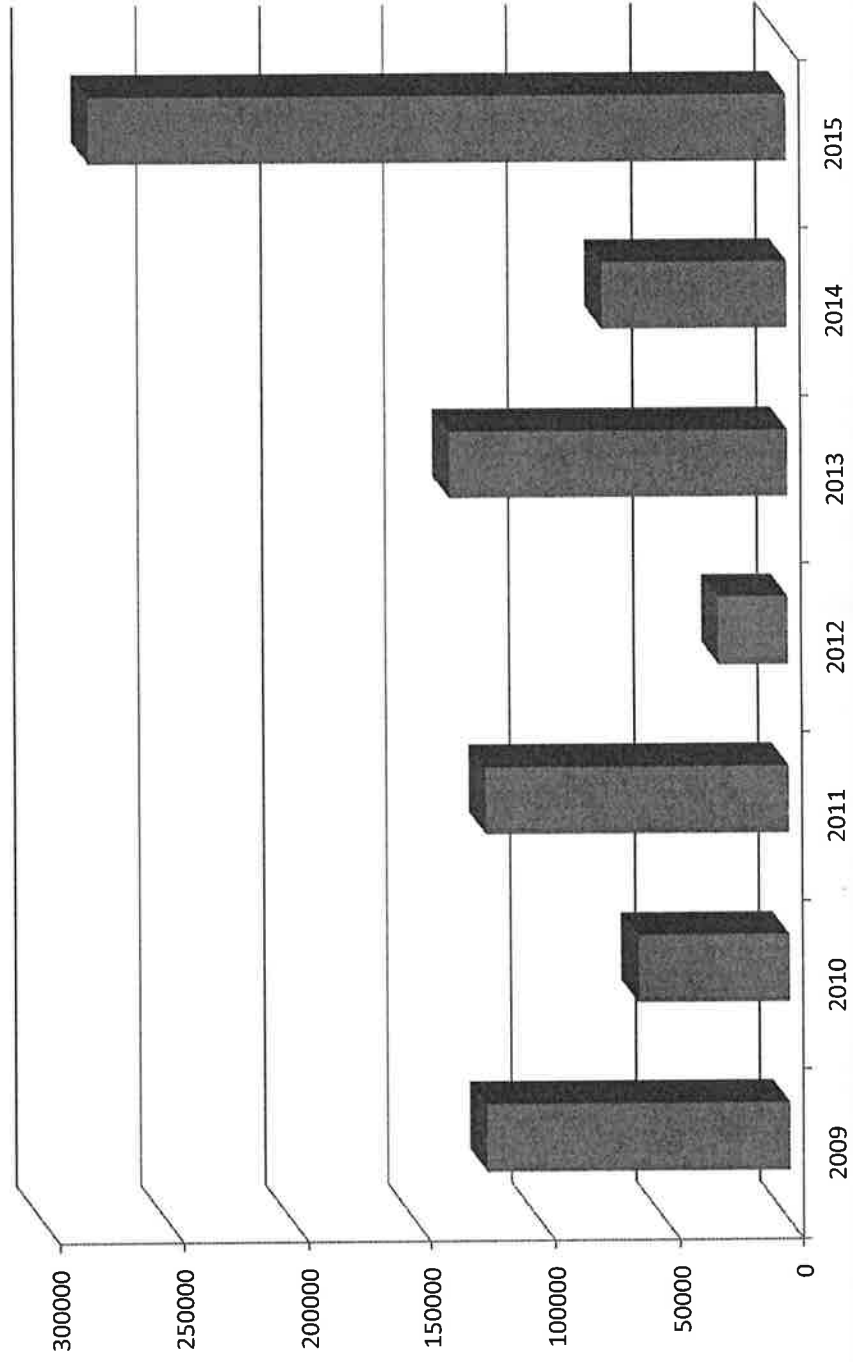


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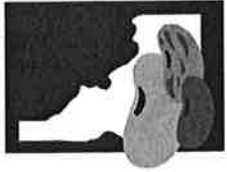


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Specialty Crop Block Grants



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IYOP

- “In 2013 the United Nations declared that 2016 will be the International Year of Pulses. The hope of the 2016 International Year of Pulses (IYP 2016) is to position pulses as a primary source of protein and other essential nutrients. IYP 2016 will promote broad discussion and cooperation at the national, regional and global levels to increase awareness and understanding of the challenges faced by pulse farmers, be they large scale farms or small land holders.”

- Find more info: <http://iyp2016.org/>
- #LovePulses #PulsePledge



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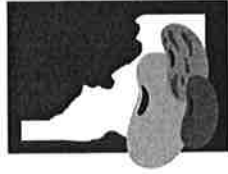
BEAN
COMMISSION

Future Activities

- **Industry Involvement**
 - IYOP, APA, USDABC, Idaho Bean Dealers
- **Continue to support the development of a Multi-State Bean Consortium**
- **Working with on the Global Scholars Program, to help grow new international markets**
 - Reverse trade-mission with CR
- **Continue to pursue grant funding**



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Beans In The News

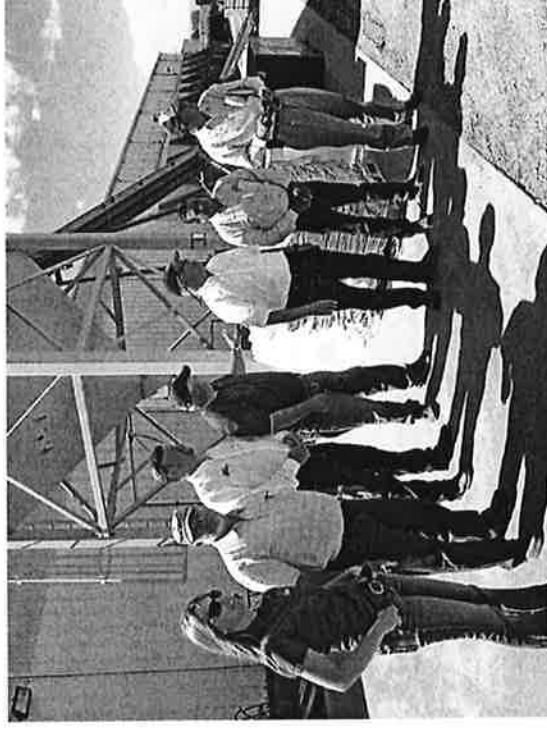
- **Capital Press**

- 4/28 Effort to create multi-state dry bean program picks up steam
- 6/2 Bean researchers study nitrogen fertilizer options
- 9/8 Visiting bean industry leaders impressed with Idaho seed

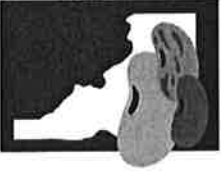
- **Wyoming Livestock**

Roundup

- 12/10 WY bean producers jumpstart commission, work together



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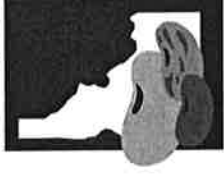
Communication



- <https://www.facebook.com/IdahoBeanCommission>
- <http://bean.idaho.gov/>
- Email: andi.woolf-weibye@bean.idaho.gov
- Phone: (208) 334-3520



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BEAN
COMMISSION

Thank You!

We really appreciate this opportunity!



AMENDED AGENDA #1
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M.
Room WW53
Thursday, February 25, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
Minutes Approval:	Approve Minutes of February 4, 2016	Senators Burgoyne and Patrick
Minutes Approval:	Approve Minutes of February 9, 2016	Senators Den Hartog and Ward-Engelking
H 417	Rural Development Partnership Act	Representative Dayley
H 383	Relating to the Aquaculture Commission	Representative Donna Pence
Presentation:	Idaho Beef Council	Traci Bracco, Executive Director
H 455	Relating to the Apple Commission	Candi Fitch, Executive Director
Presentation:	Idaho Apple and Cherry Commission	Candi Fitch, Executive Director

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Rice
Vice Chairman Bayer
Sen Patrick
Sen Souza
Sen Lee

Sen Den Hartog
Sen Harris
Sen Ward-Engelking
Sen Burgoyne

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Carol Deis
Room: WW31
Phone: 332-1330
email: sagri@senate.idaho.gov

MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 25, 2016

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rice, Vice Chairman Bayer, Senators Patrick, Souza, Lee, Harris, Ward-Engelking and Burgoyne

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Senator Den Hartog

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Rice** called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Burgoyne** moved to approve the Minutes of February 4, 2016. **Senator Patrick** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Ward-Engelking** moved to approve the Minutes of February 9, 2016. **Senator Souza** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

H 417 **Rural Development Partnership Act. Representative Dayley** said this bill re-authorizes the Idaho Rural Development Partnership Act (IRDPA) and provides amendments and clarification. The IRDPA is a network of rural development councils. These councils are neutral and nonpartisan organizations representing all levels of government, individual communities, nonprofit organizations and the private sector. Governor Otter has requested a \$50,000 line item in the Department of Labor budget for the IRDPA (see attachment 1).

The changes to the bill are: page 1, define "community"; page 2, add requirement that a report be given to the Governor; page 2, change the appointment process from the executive branch; page 4, adjust the definition of the executive director.

Representative Pence stated the IRDPA partnership focuses on community reviews as a way to provide the professional rural development expertise that a rural community lacks. Rural leaders and residents invite the council into their communities to help prioritize and execute economic development plans. The review team is made up of 10 to 15 experts selected specifically to match the needs of that community. These individuals serve as sounding boards, resources during and after the review and technical guides to stimulate economic growth. The preparation for these reviews proceeds as follows: 1) A community applies for the review. 2) A local home team will represent the community and answer a survey. 3) The executive director of the Idaho Rural Partnership (IRP) will take the survey and setup the agenda for the two-to three-day review. 4) On the last day the team offers suggestions and a plan to best implement the strategy to move the community forward. A written copy of the plan is developed for future reference by the community.

Senator Burgoyne pointed out that the fiscal note does not address where the IRP will get its funding. **Representative Dayley** replied that the funds will come from the General Fund. **Senator Burgoyne** asked if this be a new line item in the General Fund.

Representative Dayley responded that it would be a new line item. **Senator Burgoyne** said in Section 3, lines 36 to 40, the language has been stricken, which makes it appear that there is a de-emphasis of the rural aspect of the IRP. **Representative Dayley** replied that there is no de-emphasis of the rural communities. This language gives the Governor flexibility for recruiting individuals from other agencies. **Senator Burgoyne** pointed out stricken language on page 4, relating to the executive director as an exempt full-time position; how will this position be classified. **Representative Pence** answered that previously the executive director had been part time. The Governor's Office now envisions that the executive director will write the plan development documents for the community.

Senator Souza asked what project the \$50,000 is earmarked for. **Representative Dayley** responded that the Governor wants the IRP to assist him in participating in "Capitol for the Day." Communities can prepare for his arrival and send a report back to his office describing the success or failure of "Capitol for the Day".

Trent Clark, Monsanto, spoke in support of this legislation. He stated that the \$50,000 line item in the General Fund will be used for: 1) Post-community-review implementation report. This would be an audit of the community survey program to see whether it is functioning as intended; 2) IRP preparation of the rural community for its participation in the "Capitol for the Day"; and 3) The community would submit an annual report to the Governor.

Stephanie Cook, Cochair of the IRP and the Program Manager of Economic and Workforce Development for Idaho National Laboratory (INL) said INL believes that the partnership between INL and IRP will strengthen the rural communities, schools, students and the talent pipeline. Partnerships like this one will create a direct line of communication between INL and K-12 educators in rural areas, providing opportunities to enhance educator knowledge about teaching STEM and energizing students about future careers in technology.

MOTION: **Senator Harris** moved to send **H 417** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Vice Chairman Bayer** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

H 383 **Relating to the Aquaculture Commission.** **Representative Donna Pence** stated this legislation will repeal the Aquaculture Commission. She said the commission was established to help fish producers to market and to educate the public about their industry. The commission has been successful in educating the public about the fish industry and has worked cooperatively with the Idaho Aquifer Association in these endeavors. The membership in the commission has fallen off because of attrition of producers and sales of their facilities to larger companies. The marketing is now handled through the Aquaculture Association. It is the unanimous desire of the remaining members of the Aquaculture Commission to repeal the statute that created the commission. Currently there is \$12,186.56 in the commission's account; during the remaining portion of 2016 the commission will use these funds to continue to participate in their promotional activities.

MOTION: **Senator Lee** moved to send **H 383** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Souza** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PRESENTATION: **Idaho Beef Council.** **Traci Bracco**, Executive Director, of the Idaho Beef Council, began the presentation by touching on the highlights of 2015 and the industry's consumer demand. Idaho Beef Council reached 74 percent of their target audience through advertising ("choose beef for dinner tonight"), media and public relations efforts; these are critical activities for building consumption.

Engagement through promotions and events allowed their beef check-off dollars to reach more than 198,000 Idahoans and expose them to the great taste of beef. Another target area is influencing the medical and health community with a presence at the State medical associations conferences and conventions to promote beef's nutritional value to more than 23,000 health professionals across Idaho. (see attachment 2).

The beef check-off program collects \$1.50 per head of cattle sold in the State, which generated \$2,475,000 for their 2015 budget, down \$200,000 from 2014. In fiscal 2016 they project a budget of \$2,200,000, because of a small cow herd.

The challenge the industry faces is the price of the protein that the consumer is choosing. Cattle were close to \$300 per head in value for 2015, and that has made consumers switch to other proteins. But after a decade of decline, beef consumption has stabilized. The beef industry international marketplace offers one of the greatest opportunities for growth, with a place to market beef to more than 80 countries. The 2015 marketing season has been a challenging for the export markets as a result of: 1) market access issues; 2) port strikes along the West Coast; 3) slowing economies; 4) a strengthening U.S. dollar; and 5) a small beef herd size. International buyers remain active because of the high quality of the beef that is produced in the U.S. For 2015, the beef industry exported 2.35 billion pounds of beef to the overseas market, down 11 percent versus 2014.

H 455

Relating to the Idaho Apple Commission (IAC). **Candi Fitch**, Executive Director of the Apple Commission said the commission is asking for a restructuring of their districts. The legislation also includes the following changes: 1) adds the word "Idaho" apples; 2) proposes redistricting; 3) adds a new section in the code defining how the (IAC) members enter and exit their terms; 3) notes that meetings will be held at the discretion of the commission; 4) addresses the location of the meeting and where the meetings should be advertised; and 5). adds an emergency clause.

Senator Ward-Engelking asked if there is a reason why the commission meetings will be at the discretion of the commission. Is there a reason why they would not be held at a specific time regularly? **Ms. Fitch** answered that meetings shall be held for the selection of member nominees prior to expiration of a member's term by the discretion of the commission. **Ms. Fitch** replied it states in code that the IAC meetings will be held by the end of March.

MOTION:

Senator Lee moved to send **H 455** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Harris** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PRESENTATION:

Idaho Apple Commission and Cherry Commission. **Candi Fitch**, Executive Director of the Idaho Apple Commission and the Idaho Cherry Commission stated that during the 2015 growing season the apple crop was hit by hail and that lead to a decrease in production. Some growers had to abandon their orchards. The warmer falls have been a challenge for fruit finish; apples need the frosty fall mornings to gain the depth of color. She said labor continues to be an issue. There are blocks of apples being removed because apple growers do not have the labor to get them picked. There are some trade restrictions affecting the shippers again this season. The market for apples was better this year but there was not an overabundance of apples; price was much better but not as strong as 2013. Growing costs continue to outpace increases in revenue (see attachment 3).

Ms. Fitch stated that she applied for an apple specialty crop marketing grant to build awareness of Idaho apples through in-store promotions, build the social media and assist with the website development. That grant has been received in the amount of \$18,855. The Apple Commission was also involved with give a tour to a group of Taiwan buyers this summer.

Ms. Fitch said the typical growing season for southwestern Idaho cherries runs from mid-June to mid-July. This year was unseasonably warm and the fruit bloomed two weeks early; a heat wave in mid-June affected the quality of cherries and made them less marketable. The outlook for the cherry industry in Idaho remains bright. Worldwide, Idaho cherries are requested year after year and some buyers remove Idaho cherries as soon as they arrive in the marketplace because of their high quality. The Cherry Commission wanted to have more recognition so they placed an ad in each box of cherries packed (see page 15, of attachment 3). **Ms. Fitch** applied for a similar grant for the Cherry Commission as for the Apple Commission and that grant money was received in the amount of \$21,159. This grant money will be used in the same marketing promotions as the apple grant.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, **Chairman Rice** adjourned the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

Senator Rice
Chair

Carol Deis
Secretary



FOOD PRODUCERS of IDAHO, Inc.

55 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 100 • Meridian, ID 83642
phone: 208-888-0988 • fax: 208-888-4586
www.foodproducersofidaho.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 5, 2016

FURTHER INFORMATION
Rick Waitley, Executive Director
55 SW 5th Ave., Suite 100
Meridian, ID 83642
PH: 208-888-0988
Email: rick@amgidaho.com

UNIQUE COLLABORATION EMPOWERS RURAL IDAHO COMMUNITIES

Boise - Food Producers of Idaho, representing over 40 commodity & farm organizations in Idaho and the Pacific Northwest, supports H417 in the Idaho State Legislature. The bill includes amendments that will update and renew the Idaho Rural Partnership Development Act.

The Idaho Rural Partnership (IRP) was established as Idaho's rural development council in 1991. IRP's mission is to join diverse public and private resources in innovative collaborations that strengthen communities and improve life in rural Idaho.

IRP is governed by a 32-member board of directors with representatives from the Idaho Legislature, federal and state government, universities, local communities, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector.

IRP is best known for coordinating the Idaho Community Review program. Reviews have been conducted in 35 rural Idaho communities since 2000. Each review consists of a 2-3 day visit and assessment from 10-15 community and economic development professionals who donate their time and pay their own travel and lodging costs.

Food Producers of Idaho and the Idaho Rural Partnership recognize that a strong agricultural sector and successful, economically vibrant rural communities are vital to Idaho's future. H417 will help achieve this goal.

See more IRP news at www.irp.idaho.gov

Visit the IRP Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/IdahoCommunityReview/>

IRP Contacts:

Stephanie Cook, 810-338-9772, Stephanie.Cook@inl.gov
Jon Barrett, 208-383-9687, Jon.Barrett@irp.idaho.gov

IDAHO RURAL PARTNERSHIP

COMMUNITY REVIEWS

COMMUNITIES VISITED:

Aberdeen	Fairfield	New Meadows
American Falls	Glenns Ferry	Nez Perce Tribe-Lapwai
Arco	Gooding	Payette
Ashton	Grand View	Preston
Bonnars Ferry	Hayden	Priest River
Buhl	Heyburn	Rexburg
Driggs	Jerome	Rigby
Dubois	Kamiah	Salmon
Emmett	Kooskia	Sandpoint
	Kootenai	Silver Valley
	Kuna	Soda Springs
	Mackay	St. Maries
	Malad City	Stanley
		Weiser



Organizational Structure of the National Rural Development Partnership



Committed to the future of rural communities.

National Rural Development Council



State Rural Development Councils



Idaho's Rural Development Council



Local Economic Development and Host Committees



Association of Idaho Cities
3100 South Vista, Suite 310, Boise, Idaho 83705
Telephone (208) 344-8594
Fax (208) 344-8677
www.idahocities.org

Dear Members of the Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee,

The Association of Idaho Cities (AIC) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit member support organization formed by Idaho cities in 1947. The association provides technical assistance, educational training, and legislative advocacy on behalf of Idaho's 200 cities. As a representative of municipal government in the state of Idaho, I am appointed by the Governor to serve on the Idaho Rural Partnership Board of Directors. Also, in the spirit of collaboration that is at the heart of the Idaho Rural Partnership, AIC contributes meeting space and conference call services to IRP's efforts.

AIC appreciates your consideration of House Bill 417 and urges you to support its passage. House Bill 417 consists of clarifying and updating amendments to the Idaho Rural Partnership Development Act (Chapter 90, Title 67, Idaho Code). We believe passage of House Bill 417 will help the Idaho Rural Partnership fulfill its responsibility to advise the Governor and Legislature, improve intergovernmental coordination, act as an information clearinghouse on rural programs and policies, and conduct direct outreach *in* our rural communities. Collectively, these activities help make our rural communities stronger and more resilient.

We see firsthand how many of our rural member communities have identified and acted on community and economic development opportunities through their participation in IRP's Community Review Program.

Please take AIC's support into account as you consider passage of House Bill 417.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Grigg", is written over the printed name "Seth Grigg".

Seth Grigg

Executive Director

Partners for Rural America and State Rural Development Councils

The Partners for Rural America (PRA) is the national organization of State Rural Development Councils:

Working together to improve the quality of life in rural America.

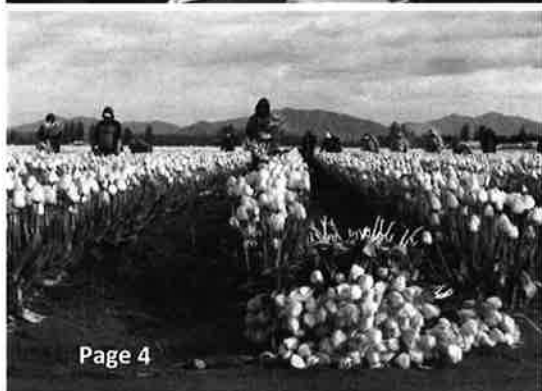
A Brief History on the National Rural Development Partnership and State Rural Development Councils

The concept for a federally supported network of State Rural Development Councils (SRDCs) was initiated by the National Governors Association during President George H. Bush's administration. Non-partisan and multi-sectorial Councils formed through the 1990s and their success led to further statutory authority when the U.S. Congress included the National Rural Development Partnership (NRDP) in the 2002 Farm Bill. USDA RD facilitated a process that certified State Rural Development Councils that met the standards for composition and decision-making set forth in federal law, and today State Councils are leading community and economic development efforts in support of rural communities in states throughout the United States.

The NRDP was reauthorized in the 2008 and 2014 Farm Bills. While no federal resources have been allocated to SRDCs since the mid-2000s, State Councils have received USDA and other federal agency grants for a range of project and programmatic activities. A number of State governments also provide financial and in-kind support to the SRDCs to assist with the facilitative rural program and policy coordination work that they undertake locally and statewide.

The State Rural Development Councils help local communities define their core assets and challenges, identify key long term priorities for development, collaborate to advance local initiatives and seek affordable alternatives. The work of Councils helps coordinate requests for federal and state funds and minimize regulatory redundancy – important reasons why Congress has continued to authorize State Councils in the Farm Bill since 2002.





About the State Rural Development Councils

Pursuant to federal law, the State Councils are neutral, nonpartisan organizations composed of representatives from all levels of government, community and regional nonprofit organizations, and the private sector. State USDA mission area offices are nearly always participants, as are a varying mix of other federal agencies. This multi-stakeholder collaborative structure creates the best possible atmosphere to help citizens and policy-makers in rural areas develop vitality-improving projects and initiatives, reduce regulatory and other barriers, address their community needs and build confidence in the local and regional development process. Rural areas often have an overburdened local leadership and overworked county/municipal government staffs. The State Councils serve an essential need as an experienced convener and vehicle for collaboration between USDA, other Federal agencies, state agencies, the nonprofit community and the private sector. This helps the rural areas address their needs, grow their communities, create jobs and provide essential infrastructure while reducing duplication of government efforts and efficiently overlapping planning and funding assistance.

.....

The State Councils are neutral, nonpartisan organizations representing all levels of government, community and regional nonprofit organizations, and the private sector.

.....

The SRDCs bring together diverse interest groups to build on local community assessments and strategic plans – both to set new directions in policy and program development and to use resources wisely in times of scarcity. The State Councils can tap the large network of experienced staff from other State Councils across the country to implement best practices, obtain technical assistance, determine funding sources and assist local leaders with community development. This information (gathered nationally) helps members of Congress identify and respond to needs through policy coordination and direction, proposed regulatory changes, targeted resources and private sector partnerships.

Many State Councils also take an active leadership in state rural summits and conferences generating a positive, nonpartisan climate for genuine advancement of policy issues, collaboration, best practices, attraction of resources and building of rural leadership capacity.











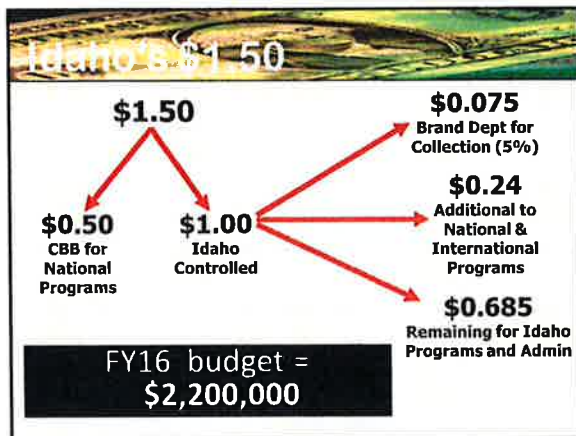






Beef Checkoff in Idaho

- \$1.50 per head
 - \$1.00 – *National Beef Promotion Act and Research Order* – 1985 Farm Bill
 - \$0.50 – Idaho Code effective 7/1/09
- Fiscal 2015
 - Total collections = \$2,475,000
 - Down approx. \$200,000 vs. fiscal 2014



Consumption Barrier

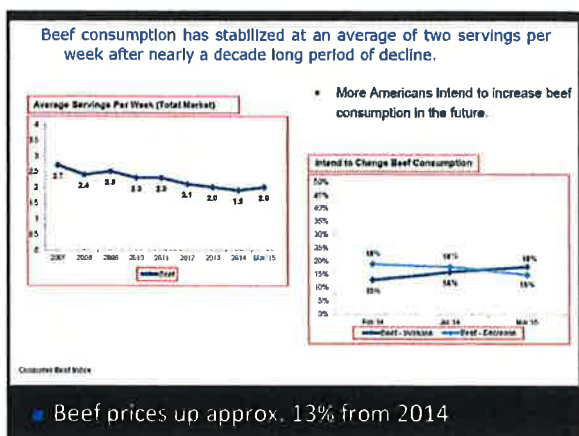
The general public...

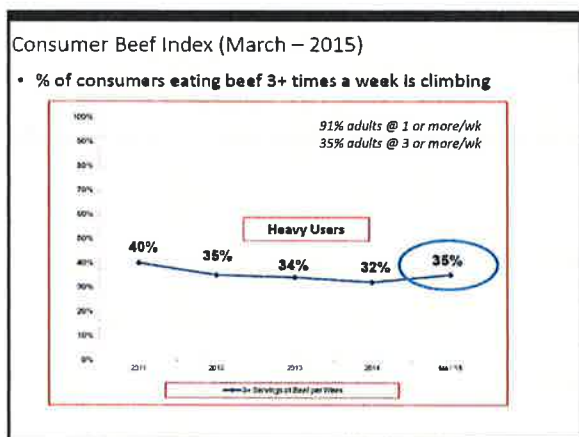
- Lacks the understanding and knowledge about beef's nutritional value
- Does not associate beef with a healthy lifestyle
- Concerned about price

MEAT 7th Grade for Animals

Current Beef Demand

MEAT 7th Grade for Animals









Export Markets

2015 Challenging year

- Market access
- Slowing economies
- Port issues
- U.S. dollar
- Tight supplies

BEEF IS A LEADER FOR GROWERS
 UNITED BY THE BEEF BRAND

2014 Record Year!

Value: \$7.13 billion in value for 2014

- *New single-year record & up 16% from 2013*

Volume: 2.6 billion pounds in 2014

- *Up 2% from 2013*

USDA statistics compiled by COWI for 2014. All values include muscle cuts and variety meats.

BEEF IS A LEADER FOR GROWERS
 UNITED BY THE BEEF BRAND

U.S. Beef Exports Jan-Dec 2015

- **1.07 million metric tons (2.35 billion pounds)** in volume exported in 2015

11% lower than last year

- **\$6.3 billion in value for 2015**

12% lower than last year

(USDA statistics compiled by USMEF)
(All totals include muscle cuts and variety meat)



Measuring Beef Export Value

- Exports accounted for 13% of total U.S. beef production last year

- Export value = \$278 per head last year

– Down 7% from 2014, but up 13% from 2013



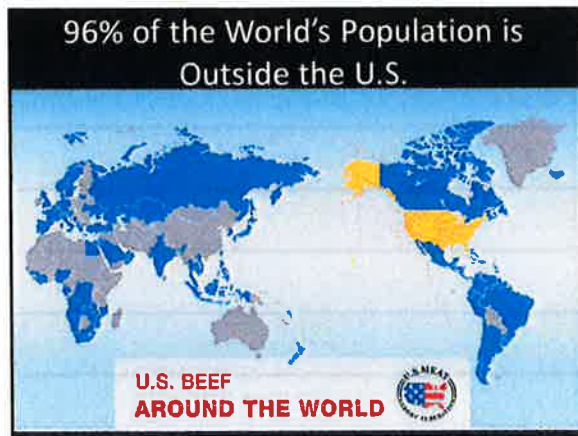
(Export production % includes variety meat)



Top U.S. Beef Export Markets 2015

- **Mexico** – 225,574 metric tons (down 7% versus 2014) • value down 6% to \$1.09 billion
- **Japan** – 204,927 mt (down 15%) • value down 19% to \$1.28 billion
- **Hong Kong** – 120,905 mt (down 22%) • value down 31% to \$800 million
- **South Korea** – 126,093 mt (up 7%) • value down 4% to \$810.4 million
- **Canada** – 124,822 mt (down 9%) • value down 13% to \$900.3 million







IDAHO BEEF COUNCIL 

1951 W. Frederic Lane, Boise
(208) 376-6004
www.idbeef.org



IDAHO APPLE COMMISSION IDAHO CHERRY COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee
February 25, 2016

2015-2016 Apple Commissioners

- Bill Ford, Chairman
- David Obermeyer, Vice-Chairman
- Daniel Rowley, Secretary/Treasurer
- Jim Carver
- Ryan Henggeler

Apple Commission Memberships

- US Apple Association
- Northwest Horticultural Council
 - Export Committee
 - Science Advisory Committee
- Northwest Fruit Exporters
- Produce Marketing Association
- United Fresh Produce Association
- Idaho Preferred
- Buy Idaho
- Ag in the Classroom

University of Idaho- Specialty Crop Grant Funds ISDA

In Search of Sustainable Rootstocks to Improve Yield Efficiency, Precocity, Mineral Nutrient Uptake, and Fruit Quality of Apples in Idaho

\$106,491.00, Allocated; \$84,207.00 Matching

The Impact of Tree Architecture and Girdling at Full Maturity in a Modern Super High Density Orchard on Yield Efficiency, Fruit Quality, Mineral Partitioning and Postharvest Physiology of Apples in Idaho

\$131,124.00, Allocated; 38,462.00 Matching

Thank you Essie!!!!

2015 Apple Specialty Crop Grant

Creating Awareness of Idaho Apples through In-store Promotion, Web Site Development, and Social Media

Abstract:

The proposal "Creating Awareness of Idaho Apples through In-store Promotion, Web Site Development, and Social Media" outlines a project that will be conducted by the Idaho Apple Commission. The two-year project will be the development, creation, and distribution of a 5-6 minute video showcasing the apple growing, maturity, and the harvest and packing season of Idaho apples, and still photography will be acquired for each stage. The video and photography will be used on the Commission's web site and Social Media channels.

Apple Budget

Grant Funds	\$18,855
Cash Matching	\$500
In-Kind	\$594
Total	\$19,949

Taiwan Buyers Luncheon – July 22, 2015



Apple and Cherry Events

- Canyon County Fair – July 23-26, 2015
- Western Idaho Fair, Expo Idaho – August 21-30, 2015
- Twin Falls County Fair – September 2-7, 2015
- Association of Nutrition and Foodservice Professionals Workshop - September 24, 2015
- Idaho State Horticulture Annual Report – November 11, 2015
- Buy Idaho Capitol Show – January 20, 2016

Idaho Apple Donations

- Apples to the Capitol – Legislative Session
- Leadership Idaho Ag – February 18, 2015
- House Ag Committee – February 26, 2015
- Senate Ag Committee – March 12, 2015
- Idaho Ag Summit – February 16, 2015
- Meridian FFA Expo – September 22-24, 2015
- St Luke's FitOne – September 26, 2015
- Simplot Farm Safety Day (Parma R & E Center) – September 29, 2015

Apple Promotional Materials



Idaho Apple Commission
2015-2016 Financial Statement and 2016-2017 Proposed Budget

	2014-2015 Financial Statement	2015-2016 Financial Statement	Budget 2015-2016	Proposed Budget 2016-2017
Income:				
Balance:	\$ 147,770.13	\$ 147,909.23		
Crop Assessments	25,871.83	366.05	57,000.00	57,000.00
Interest Income	34.40	446.98	50.00	750.00
Assessments from Prior Years	8,905.20	29,898.54	19,211.65	
Specialty Crop Grant Money	60,599.03	32,868.74	64,355.00	59,949.00
Reserve Money				
Total Income	95,410.46	63,580.31	140,616.65	117,699.00
Administrative Office:				
Audit Fee	-	-	-	-
Insurance/Workman's Comp	114.10	-	175.00	175.00
Office Supplies/Equipment	-	139.50	-	-
Postage	118.58	18.24	250.00	400.00
Rent & % of Salaries	11,153.00	4,647.13	11,153.00	11,153.00
Telephone	-	-	-	-
Office Travel	410.65	382.41	400.00	300.00
Total Administrative	11,796.33	5,187.28	11,978.00	12,028.00
Promotion:				
Production/Printing	167.45	116.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Media	-	2,250.00	-	-
Local Promotions	2,555.20	1,924.43	3,000.00	3,500.00
Trade Association	13,406.00	14,565.50	18,000.00	18,000.00
Trade Meetings	-	-	1,700.00	1,700.00
Promotion Programs	-	-	-	-
Promotion Misc.(Postage, Special, Fees)	-	-	150.00	150.00
Total Promotions and Export Deve.	16,128.65	18,855.93	24,350.00	24,850.00
Grant Money Expended				
2011 Grant	1,555.08	-	-	-
2013 Grant	59,043.95	32,868.74	30,000.00	20,000.00
2014 Grant		-	15,000.00	20,000.00
2015 Grant		-	18,855.00	19,949.00
2015 Grant - Match			500.00	500
Total Grant Money Expended	60,599.03	32,868.74	64,355.00	60,449.00
Research Projects:				
University of Idaho				
Current Season's Projects-Fallahi	6,070.61	8,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
E. Fallahi -09 Grant (11-12 Season)		-		
Previous Season's Projects				
Research Reserve				
Total Research Projects	6,070.61	8,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Miscellaneous Expense:				
Miscellaneous	676.74	637.58	750.00	750.00
Commission Travel	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous-Other	-	-	-	-
Total Miscellaneous	676.74	637.58	750.00	750.00
Grand Total	\$ 95,271.36	\$ 65,549.53	121,433.00	118,077.00

01/13/16

Idaho Apple Commission

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2015

	<u>Dec 31, 15</u>	<u>Dec 31, 14</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
1050 · U S Bank - Checking	49,580.38	6,884.65
1060 · U S Bank - Savings	10,150.31	10,149.84
1065 · U.S. Bank CD @ 0.50%, 4/23/17	55,411.58	54,975.33
1070 · US Bank Money Market Account	17,062.32	32,039.34
Total Checking/Savings	<u>132,204.59</u>	<u>104,049.16</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>132,204.59</u>	<u>104,049.16</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>132,204.59</u>	<u>104,049.16</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
2403 · Specialty Crop Grant 2013	-13,735.42	-27,854.85
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>-13,735.42</u>	<u>-27,854.85</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>-13,735.42</u>	<u>-27,854.85</u>
Total Liabilities	-13,735.42	-27,854.85
Equity		
3900 · Operating Reserve	147,909.23	147,770.13
Net Income	-1,969.22	-15,866.12
Total Equity	<u>145,940.01</u>	<u>131,904.01</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>132,204.59</u>	<u>104,049.16</u>

Idaho Apple Commission
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
 July through December 2015

	<u>Jul - Dec 15</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>
Income			
4050 · 2015 Crop Assessments	366.05	30,000.00	-29,633.95
4060 · Interest Income	446.98	50.00	396.98
4065 · Specialty Crop Grants	32,868.74	64,355.00	-31,486.26
4075 · Previous Year's Assessments	29,898.54	19,211.65	10,686.89
Total Income	<u>63,580.31</u>	<u>113,616.65</u>	<u>-50,036.34</u>
Expense			
7100 · Administrative			
7120 · Property Ins/Workman Comp	0.00	175.00	-175.00
7130 · Office Supplies/Equipment	139.50		
7140 · Postage	18.24	250.00	-231.76
7150 · Rent & % of Salaries	4,647.13	11,153.00	-6,505.87
7170 · Office Travel	382.41	400.00	-17.59
Total 7100 · Administrative	<u>5,187.28</u>	<u>11,978.00</u>	<u>-6,790.72</u>
7200 · Trade Involvements			
7220 · Trade Association Dues	14,565.50	18,000.00	-3,434.50
7549 · Trade Meetings	0.00	1,700.00	-1,700.00
Total 7200 · Trade Involvements	<u>14,565.50</u>	<u>19,700.00</u>	<u>-5,134.50</u>
7300 · Promotion			
7320 · Production and Printing	116.00	1,500.00	-1,384.00
7330 · Media	2,250.00		
7340 · Local Promotions	1,924.43	3,000.00	-1,075.57
7495 · Promotion Miscellaneous	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Total 7300 · Promotion	<u>4,290.43</u>	<u>4,650.00</u>	<u>-359.57</u>
7662 · Miscellaneous	637.58	750.00	-112.42
7665 · Grant Money Expended			
7668 · 2013 Grant	32,868.74	30,000.00	2,868.74
7670 · 2014 Grant	0.00	15,000.00	-15,000.00
7671 · 2015 Grant	0.00	18,855.00	-18,855.00
7672 · 2015 Grant - Match	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total 7665 · Grant Money Expended	<u>32,868.74</u>	<u>64,355.00</u>	<u>-31,486.26</u>
7669 · Research Projects			
7682 · Current Season Proj - Fallahi	8,000.00	20,000.00	-12,000.00
Total 7669 · Research Projects	<u>8,000.00</u>	<u>20,000.00</u>	<u>-12,000.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>65,549.53</u>	<u>121,433.00</u>	<u>-55,883.47</u>
Net Income	<u>-1,969.22</u>	<u>-7,816.35</u>	<u>5,847.13</u>

Idaho Apple Commission
Account QuickReport
As of December 31, 2015

2403 - Specialty Crop Grant 2013

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount	Balance
Check	06/30/2014	3428	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency 10/31/13 - 5/31/14	-1,233.76	0.00
Deposit	07/30/2014		State of Idaho	Specialty Crop Grant	1,233.76	-1,233.76
Check	08/20/2014	3435	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (7/1/14 - 7/31/14)	-1,538.69	0.00
Check	10/01/2014	3439	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (8/1/14 - 8/31/14)	-5,213.89	-1,538.69
Check	10/01/2014	3443	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (6/1/14 - 6/30/14)	-6,129.52	-6,752.58
Deposit	10/24/2014		State of Idaho	Specialty Crop Grant	1,538.69	-12,882.10
Check	11/11/2014	3448	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (9/1/14 - 9/30/14)	-1,562.44	-11,343.41
Check	11/11/2014	3448	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (10/1/14 - 10/31/14)	-14,949.00	-12,905.85
Check	01/23/2015	3453	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (11/1/14 - 11/30/14)	-8,915.92	-27,854.85
Check	01/23/2015	3453	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (12/1/14 - 12/31/14)	-3,841.43	-36,770.77
Check	02/23/2015	3464	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (1/1/15 - 1/31/15)	-3,477.89	-40,612.20
Deposit	02/23/2015		Idaho State Department of Agric Deposit		27,854.85	-44,090.09
Check	03/31/2015	3471	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (2/1/15 - 2/28/15)	-7,750.72	-16,235.24
Deposit	04/27/2015		State of Idaho		23,985.96	-7,750.72
Check	05/27/2015	3475	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (3/1/15 - 3/31/15)	-3,934.70	-3,934.70
Check	05/27/2015	3475	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (4/1/15 - 4/30/15)	-1,729.75	-5,664.45
Check	07/09/2015	3481	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (5/1/15 - 5/31/15)	-5,008.79	-10,673.24
Check	07/23/2015	3484	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (6/1/15 - 6/30/15)	-14,124.53	-24,797.77
Deposit	07/31/2015		State of Idaho		5,664.45	-19,133.32
Check	10/20/2015	3491	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (8/1/15 - 8/31/15)	-6,104.57	-25,237.89
Deposit	11/13/2015		State of Idaho		19,133.32	-6,104.57
Check	11/24/2015	3504	University of Idaho	Improved Yield Efficiency (7/1/15 - 7/31/15)	-7,630.85	-13,735.42
Total 2403 - Specialty Crop Grant 2013					-13,735.42	-13,735.42
					-13,735.42	-13,735.42

2015-2016 Cherry Commissioners

- Larry Ball, Chairman
- Richard Kincheloe, Vice Chairman
- Kelly Henggeler, Secretary/Treasurer
- Jim Mertz
- Keith Green

Cherry Commission Memberships

- Idaho Preferred
- Northwest Cherry Growers
- Ag in the Classroom

Cherry Activities

- Cherry Marketing Institute Yakima, Washington, January 16, 2015
- The Packer, June 8, 2015, United Fresh Edition



2015 Cherry Specialty Crop Grants

Creating Awareness of Idaho Cherries through In-store Promotion, Web Site Development, and Social Media

Abstract:

The proposal "Creating Awareness of Idaho Cherries through In-store Promotion, Web Site Development, and Social Media" outlines a project that will be conducted by the Idaho Cherry Commission. The two-year project will be the development, creation, and distribution of a 5-6 minute video showcasing the cherry growing, maturity, and the harvest and packing season of Idaho cherries, and still photography will be acquired for each stage. The video and photography will be used on the Commission's web site and Social Media channels.

Cherry Budget

Grant Funds	\$21,159
Cash Matching	\$500
In-Kind	\$594
Total	\$22,253

HEALING BENEFITS OF SWEET CHERRIES

1. **PROTECT AGAINST ALZHEIMER'S**
 Sweet cherries contain a high concentration of flavonoids, which are powerful antioxidants that help protect the brain from oxidative damage. Studies have shown that people who consume more flavonoids have a lower risk of developing Alzheimer's disease.

2. **WASH OFF ALCOHOL**
 Sweet cherries are rich in malic acid, which helps the liver process and eliminate alcohol from the body. Drinking sweet cherry juice after a night of heavy drinking can help reduce hangover symptoms.

3. **IMPROVE BLOOD CIRCULATION**
 Sweet cherries contain compounds that help dilate blood vessels, improving blood flow throughout the body. This can be beneficial for people with conditions like hypertension and heart disease.

4. **REDUCE INFLAMMATION**
 Sweet cherries are a natural source of anti-inflammatory compounds, including anthocyanins. Consuming sweet cherries can help reduce inflammation in the body, which is beneficial for people with conditions like arthritis.

5. **SLEEP BETTER AND EASE JOINT PAIN**
 Sweet cherries contain melatonin, a hormone that regulates sleep. Consuming sweet cherries before bed can help improve sleep quality. Additionally, the anti-inflammatory properties of sweet cherries can help ease joint pain.

6. **HEAL WAYS TO ENJOY SWEET CHERRY KNEECRACKS**
 Sweet cherries can be eaten fresh, frozen, or dried. They can also be used in smoothies, juices, and baked goods. For people with knee pain, applying sweet cherry juice topically to the affected area may provide relief.



Idaho Cherry Commission

2015-2016 Six Month Financial Statement
2016-2017 Estimated Budget

	2014-2015 Financial Statement	2015-2016 Six Month Financial Statement	Budgeted 2015-2016	Estimated Budget 2016-2017
Income:				
Balance:	\$ 13,406.82	\$ 19,322.80		
Crop Assessments	\$ 29,106.67	\$ 26,424.80	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Interest Income	1.79	1.43	10.00	10.00
Specialty Crop Grant				22,253.00
Other Income	-	-	-	-
Total Income	29,108.46	26,426.23	20,010.00	42,263.00
<u>Administrative, Office, Miscellaneous Expenses:</u>				
Insurance/workman's Comp	(35.90)	-	200.00	200.00
Rent & % of Salaries	3,847.00	3,847.00	3,847.00	3,847.00
Office Supplies and Equipment	-	-	-	-
Postage	72.48	10.56	100.00	100.00
Phone	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	1,163.59	1,250.47	400.00	400.00
Total Administrative	5,047.17	5,108.03	4,547.00	4,547.00
<u>Commission Expenses:</u>				
Specialty Crop Grant				22,253.00
Travel	1,578.69	253.02	500.00	500.00
Annual California Inspection	-	-	500.00	500.00
Mexico Cherry Inspection	-	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
Promotional Programs	-	-	5,000.00	5,000.00
NWCG Promotional Assessment	15,000.00	-	15,000.00	15,000.00
Soft Fruit Research	1,452.00	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
Promotional Items	114.62	-	1,500.00	1,500.00
Total Commission Expense	18,145.31	253.02	24,500.00	46,753.00
Grand Total	23,192.48	5,361.05	29,047.00	51,300.00

01/21/16

Idaho Cherry Commission

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2015

Dec 31, 15

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1050 · US Bank - Checking

35,178.09

1060 · US Bank - Savings

5,209.89

Total Checking/Savings

40,387.98

Total Current Assets

40,387.98

TOTAL ASSETS

40,387.98

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

3900 · Operating Reserve

19,322.80

Net Income

21,065.18

Total Equity

40,387.98

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY

40,387.98

Idaho Cherry Commission
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
 July through December 2015

	<u>Jul - Dec 15</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>
Income			
4050 · 2015 Crop Assessments	26,424.80	20,000.00	6,424.80
4060 · Interest Income	1.43	10.00	-8.57
Total Income	<u>26,426.23</u>	<u>20,010.00</u>	<u>6,416.23</u>
Expense			
7100 · Workman's Comp and Insurance	0.00	200.00	-200.00
7200 · Rent &% Of Salaries	3,847.00	3,847.00	0.00
7240 · Annual California Inspection	0.00	500.00	-500.00
7250 · NWCG Promotion Assessments	0.00	15,000.00	-15,000.00
7260 · Mexico Cherry Inspectors	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
7270 · Soft Fruit Research	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
7280 · Promotional Items	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
7290 · Promotional Programs	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00
7300 · Travel	0.00	500.00	-500.00
7301 · Office Travel	253.02		
7415 · Postage	10.56	100.00	-89.44
7425 · Miscellaneous	1,250.47	400.00	850.47
Total Expense	<u>5,361.05</u>	<u>29,047.00</u>	<u>-23,685.95</u>
Net Income	<u><u>21,065.18</u></u>	<u><u>-9,037.00</u></u>	<u><u>30,102.18</u></u>

Parma Office Overview

- Idaho-E. Oregon Onion Committee
- Idaho-Oregon Fruit and Vegetable Association
- Idaho Apple Commission
- Idaho Cherry Commission

Web Site and Office Staff

- Web Site www.idahoapples.com
- Web Site www.idahocherries.com

- Candi Fitch, Executive Director
 - candif@cablone.net
- Ann Jacops, Assistant Director
 - annjacops@cablone.net
- Debbie Edgar, Operations Clerk
 - dedgar@cablone.net
- Susy Santos, Administrative Assistant
 - usaonoin@cablone.net

Thank you!!!

Questions and Answers

2015 Taiwan Fresh Produce Buyers Delegation
PMA Show/Idaho/California
July 21-28, 2015

Name	Company Name	Address	E-mail/Tel/Cell	Major Import Items	Products of Interest
Agent(A) Distributor(D) Exporter(E) HRI(H) Importer(I) Processor(P) Retailer(R)					
(1) Linda Lu, General Manager (2) Emma Lin, Manager (3) Zoe Lu, Manager	Three Shine Trading Co., Ltd. (A, I, H, P, R)	4F, 41 Chiao An Street, Chungho, Taipei, Taiwan	Linda@3shine.com.tw Tel: +886-2- 8245-5580 Cell: +886-970-068-295 +886-970-180-109 emma@3shine.com.tw Zoe@3shine.com.tw	Fresh fruits & vegetable	Fresh fruit and vegetables, organic vegetables, frozen fruits, salad processor, fruit cutting and processing facilities
(4) Katy Yu, Specialist Assistant to President	Walker Grow- Rite International Co., Ltd. (D, I)	10F, 26 Hsinyi Road, Section 4, Taipei, Taiwan	katy@walker-taiwan.com Tel: +886-2-2755-2477 Cell: +886- 988-068-432	Fresh fruits, cherries; table grapes; apples; peaches; honeydew melon; potatoes	Fresh apples, cherries, stone fruits, honeydew melon, table grapes, blueberries, potatoes, carrots, and onions
(5) Donald Lee, President	Pride company (A, D, I)	363, Sec. 3, Huang Nan Rd., Taipei, Taiwan	dhclee@gmail.com Tel: 886-2-2595-8848 Cell: 886-939-314-232	lettuce, broccoli, celery, onions, potatoes, carrots,	lettuce, broccoli, celery, onions, potatoes, carrots,
(6) Cindy Chang, Agricultural Marketing Specialist	American Institute in Taiwan	Room 704, 136, Sec. 3, Ren Ai Rd., Taipei, Taiwan	Changcsf@state.gov Tel: +886-2-2705-6536, Ext. 248 Cell: +886-930-922-725		

HEALTH BENEFITS OF SWEET CHERRIES

Sweet NW cherries may be considered a summer treat, but they're easy to enjoy all year long and boast plenty of health benefits you may not know about. Aside from being high in fiber and low in calories, they can protect against serious diseases. See how this superfruit benefits both your body and your taste buds!

7 SWEET REWARDS OF THIS SWEET SUPERFRUIT

PROTECT AGAINST ALZHEIMER'S:

Flavonoids and procyanidin can help guard neuronal cells, reducing oxidant stress and fighting dementia

WARD OFF CANCER:

Fiber + vitamin C + carotenoids + anthocyanins = anti-cancer team

- Cyanidin and quercetin help by reducing free radicals

COMBAT HYPERTENSION AND STROKE:

Potassium may reduce these risks, and cherries have more potassium (270 mg) than strawberries (254 mg) or apples (148 mg)

Sweet cherries	270 mg
Strawberries	254 mg
Apples	148 mg

FIGHT CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE:

Anthocyanin also reduces inflammation, plaque and nitric oxide, keeping your heart strong and healthy.

- Quercetin's fight against free radicals helps ward off heart disease.

DISCOURAGE DIABETES:

Anthocyanin may reduce insulin resistance and increase glucose tolerance

Fruit Glycemic Index (Lower Is Better)

Sweet cherries	22
Plums	39
Blueberries	40
Peaches	42
Grapes	46
Apricots	57

REDUCE INFLAMMATION:

Phytochemicals inhibit inflammation-causing enzymes, reducing pain from arthritis, injury and other ailments.

SLEEP BETTER AND BATTLE JET LAG:

Melatonin regulates circadian rhythm, helping you get truly restful sleep while reducing the tiring effects of jet lag.

BEST WAYS TO ENJOY SWEET NORTHWEST CHERRIES



NWCHERRIES.COM/SWEETHEALTHY

Year-round, by preserving at the peak of freshness:



Wash, dry and freeze to enjoy later in pies, smoothies, or even as frozen treats right out of the bag.



Can for preserved cherries, jams or jellies.



Dry for a simple healthy snack on the go or toss into a trail mix.



State Ranking Onion Comparison All Types
2014 All Seasons

	State		Harvested acreage
1.	California	*	43,900
2.	Washington	**	22,000
3.	Idaho-E. Oregon		16,200
4.	Georgia		11,100
5.	Oregon (West)		10,300
6.	Texas	*D	9,000
7.	New York		8,000
8.	New Mexico		5,100
9.	Colorado		3,600
10.	Michigan		2,500
(Nevada did not Report to Avoid Disclosing Individual Operations)			

	State		Cwt. Yield Per Acre
1.	Idaho-E. Oregon		810
2.	Oregon (West)		660
3.	New Mexico		600
4.	Washington	**	525
5.	Colorado		500
6.	California	*	490
7.	Wisconsin		465
8.	Michigan		370
9.	New York		295
10.	Texas	*D	260
(Nevada did not Report to Avoid Disclosing Individual Operations)			

	State		Production (1,000 cwt.)
1.	California	*	22,856
2.	Washington	**	13,800
3.	Idaho-E. Oregon		12,483
4.	Oregon (West)		6,798
5.	New Mexico		3,060
6.	Georgia		2,585
7.	New York		2,360
8.	Texas	*D	2,340
9.	Colorado		1,800
10.	Michigan		925
(Nevada did not Report to Avoid Disclosing Individual Operations)			

	State		Value per cwt. (Dollars)
1.	Georgia		\$41.90
2.	Texas	*D	\$24.00
3.	Washington	**	\$21.75
4.	Colorado		\$19.00
5.	New Mexico		\$18.70
6.	Wisconsin		\$17.50
7.	New York		\$15.30
8.	Michigan		\$12.90
9.	California	*	\$10.90
10.	Oregon (West)		\$8.90
(Nevada did not Report to Avoid Disclosing Individual Operations)			

	State		Total Value (1,000 Dollars)
1.	California	*	275,628
2.	Washington	**	134,124
3.	Georgia		108,312
4.	Idaho-E. Oregon		100,951
5.	New Mexico		57,222
6.	Texas	*D	56,160
7.	Oregon (West)		49,466
8.	New York		33,798
9.	Colorado		30,438
10.	Wisconsin		13,073
(Nevada did not Report to Avoid Disclosing Individual Operations)			

* Includes Spring or Summer storage and non storage

** Includes Summer storage and non storage

*** Includes Spring and Summer non storage

*D Includes Spring and Data Withheld to Avoid Disclosing Individual Operations

AGENDA
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M.
Room WW53
Tuesday, March 01, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
Minutes:	Approve Minutes of February 9, 2016	Senators Den Hartog and Ward-Engelking
Minutes:	Approve Minutes of February 11, 2016	Vice Chairman Bayer and Senator Lee
H 381	Relating to Veterinarians	Jodie Ellis, Executive Director
H 382	Relating to Veterinarians	Jodie Ellis, Executive Director
Presentation:	Alfalfa and Clover Commission	Rick Waitley, Administrator

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Rice	Sen Den Hartog
Vice Chairman Bayer	Sen Harris
Sen Patrick	Sen Ward-Engelking
Sen Souza	Sen Burgoyne
Sen Lee	

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Carol Deis
Room: WW31
Phone: 332-1330
email: sagri@senate.idaho.gov

MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, March 01, 2016

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rice, Vice Chairman Bayer, Senators Patrick, Souza, Lee, Den Hartog, Harris, Ward-Engelking and Burgoyne

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Rice** called the meeting of the Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee (Committee) to order at 8:02 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Den Hartog** moved to approve the Minutes of February 9, 2016. **Senator Harris** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

Vice Chairman Bayer moved to approve the Minutes of February 11, 2016. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

H 381 **Relating to Veterinarians. Jodie Ellis**, Executive Director, Board of Veterinary Medicine, said the Idaho Board of Veterinary Medicine (IBVM) seeks to change the name of the IBVM sub-group, currently known as the Certified Euthanasia Task Force (CETF), to the Committee on Humane Euthanasia. Both the SBVM and the CETF members feel the new name will better reflect the group's permanent status and its mission to promote the practice of humane euthanasia of animals in Idaho.

The CETF was first established in 1994 to create and oversee a program that provides humane, regulated euthanasia of shelter animals throughout Idaho. Its purpose is to improve human safety as well as provide a compassionate death to animals when necessary. The task force was originally envisioned as temporary, but the need for the program has grown over the years. There are currently 17 certified agencies and 60 certified technicians in the State.

The CETF consists of a dedicated group of volunteers, five veterinarians and one Certified Euthanasia Technician. This group oversees the training, testing and certification of both certified euthanasia agencies in Idaho and of the technicians who perform euthanasia and manage the programs. Members of the CETF conduct comprehensive training for technicians and inspections of facilities every year. The CETF works closely with other agencies such as the Board of Pharmacy to create a safe environment for workers and animals alike.

The label CETF implies a temporary status. This group has proven its permanent merit, and BOVM believes a change in name is warranted. The name change will necessitate minor amendments to two statutes, followed by corresponding amendments to BOVM rules.

Senator Den Hartog asked why a separate committee was created outside of BOVM to handle the euthanasia? **Ms. Ellis** replied the reason the CETF became separated from BOVM was that the work of the CETF is time-consuming. Even though they only meet twice a year, the meetings are long and the training sessions are all-day events.

The BOVM looked for experience in shelter medicine, and at the time CETF was created no one on the BOVM possessed that skill. Euthanasia is not a pleasant task and the individuals who volunteer for CETF strive to ensure animals who must be euthanized are treated humanely.

MOTION:

Senator Souza moved to send **H381** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Burgoyne** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

H 382

Relating to Veterinarians. **Jodie Ellis**, Executive Director, BOVM, stated the BOVM is requesting a change to Idaho Code § 54-2118. Currently the statute authorizes the BOVM, under defined circumstances, to extend a non-disciplinary option (NDO) to veterinarians and certified technicians who violate continuing education and record-keeping requirements. Because of BOVMs very positive experiences with the NDO, the BOVM wishes to extend the possible use of NDOs to other violations of the Veterinary Practice Act (VPA). The NDO is designed to be used only for minor infractions that need to be addressed but are not severe enough to rise to the level of formal discipline. Formal discipline becomes a part of licensees' and certificate holders' permanent records and is tracked throughout their careers. Formal discipline is imposed when there is a severe infraction that, in the BOVM opinion, directly and immediately threatens the well-being of the people and animals of Idaho.

Expanding the use of the NDO in the BOVM disciplinary toolbox has the potential to prevent larger, more serious problems. This will ultimately provide better protection for Idaho citizens and their animals by allowing veterinarians and technicians who have made minor missteps to improve themselves before real harm occurs. An alternative to formal discipline is not suitable for all situations. It cannot be offered in cases where a practitioner's deficiency threatens the safety of people and animals. It is not suitable for those who have been formally disciplined by the BOVM in the last five years. Existing code prohibits its application when the licensee is on probation. It will not be available when felony charges are pending or a criminal investigation is ongoing; if convicted the licensee would likely lose his or her license. The NDO is not designed for the chronic or serious offender but rather for licensee or certificate holders, who on making a one-time or infrequent slip, need a nudge back onto the correct course.

The proposed legislation will greatly facilitate the BOVM's ability to successfully address borderline situations that constitute a significant part of the complaints that the BOVM receives, using a less harsh but very effective approach.

Senator Burgoyne said on page 1, the bill references alternatives to formal disciplinary action. What are the alternatives? **Ms. Ellis** answered that the alternatives they use are a civil fine that ranges from \$500 to \$1,000. The licensee might also have to take a corrective action based on the problem.

Senator Burgoyne asked what are the minor missteps? **Ms. Ellis** replied that a younger veterinarian may make a minor error in surgery or medicine that does not directly threaten the patient but is brought to the BOVM's attention. What the veterinarian needs is correction, not formal discipline.

For example: The young veterinarian used the wrong type of suture. The vet might need a little mentoring rather than a formal process that would imply that they were engaging in malpractice. **Senator Burgoyne** asked for clarification on language in the statute that reads, "An alternative to formal discipline may be offered by the board's liaison officer to a licensee or certificate holder when the officer has determined, in his sound discretion, that animal and public safety will not be compromised and the violation can most appropriately be resolved without formal discipline."

Is there any BOVM oversight, prior to the formal discipline, contemporaneous or an after the fact? **Ms. Ellis** answered that last year BOVM put forth legislation that allows their liaison officer to consult with the BOVM president; the liaison officer makes the final decision. At the October BOVM meeting they hold a yearly review of cases for the benefit of all the BOVM members who eventually rotate into a BOVM position. There is a discussion of every discipline case that has come before BOVM.

Senator Burgoyne questioned the language on page 2, lines 23 and 24, in respect to the BOVM investigative expenses and costs. This language also appears in the existing statute on page 1, lines 18 and 19. **Senator Burgoyne** stated that he has long held the view that if any licensing board is going to seek to recoup its investigative expenses, including attorney's fees, in the event that an action proves not to warrant any discipline, the licensee should be able to recover their attorney's fees. When would BOVM choose the process of an alternative to formal discipline? How much money would a veterinarian have to pay in this formal discipline course? **Ms. Ellis** answered that BOVM's experience is using the non-disciplinary option for the continuing education and record-keeping violations. There have been no costs for attorney and paralegal fees. The legal cost language has been placed in the legislation because BOVM is a small board and if major legal fees were incurred in a formal disciplinary action BOVM would need to recoup its expenses. She has not seen this formal discipline process used. **Senator Burgoyne** stated his concerns with the bill are: 1) there is no BOVM level approval to make sure that the liaison officer's determination is a minor matter; 2) the statute as proposed does not seem to define what these minor matters would be; and 3) the structure on the issue of costs and attorney's fees might elevate a matter to a formal discipline situation because of those fees. Individuals who are licensees are often going to be subject to criticism from customers. The bill should offer a process that if the veterinarian is exonerated, they should be reimbursed for their fees and costs; otherwise this is a one-way process.

Ms. Ellis explained that a serious complaint would go before the BOVM and be reviewed. It would not be necessary for the liaison officer to be questioned on a complaint action because they are the most senior member of BOVM. The liaison officer has been through five years of training and is capable of deciding whether a matter would rise to the level of serious or remain in the non-disciplinary mode. The cases are reviewed once a year; if a situation arose where there were problems deciding the course of discipline, there would be a consultation between the BOVM president and liaison officer. BOVM's system works well and their purpose is to improve practices for the citizens of Idaho and to give their licensees a chance to redeem themselves before a situation would become a serious problem.

Senator Harris stated that his ranch activities revolve around a veterinarian. Mistakes do take place; animals are unpredictable they are animals, he would not like to have a veterinarian burdened with a large fine for a simple mistake. **Ms. Ellis** said that Senator Harris' comment is in the spirit of what the BOVM intends to convey. It is the BOVM intent to offer assistance to licensees in the correction of minor mistakes.

Chairman Rice said as he understands the existing statute, the BOVM can discipline with a fine of any amount up to \$5,000. The licensee would also have to pay the investigatory expenses, paralegal and attorney's fees or proceed with any other BOVM administrative action, such as additional training. The licensee has to be given notice and a hearing. If the violation is related to record-keeping or continuing education, the licensee or certificate holder can elect to pay a civil penalty of an amount between \$500 and \$1,000, as long as they have not been disciplined within the preceding five years, are not currently on probation, have not previously elected to pay the penalty and they remedy the situation.

Ms. Ellis replied in the affirmative, that is the current statute. **Chairman Rice** stated that the bill changes would eliminate the licensee's ability to choose to pay the penalty of \$500 to \$1,000 in record-keeping or continuing education situations. In place of this option, the statute change reads "among other terms and conditions, an alternative to formal discipline may require the licensee or certificate holder to comply with the board's instructions on remedying the violation, pay a monetary civil penalty to the board of up to \$1,000 and pay all BOVM investigative expenses and costs, including reasonable paralegal and attorney's fees." **Ms. Ellis** answered this is the correct new language.

Chairman Rice asked what level of proof BOVM requires in the disciplinary proceeding that has the penalty of up to a \$5,000 fine. **Ms. Ellis** responded that in the process of formal discipline, if the BOVM felt that it had enough information, they would then engage their own investigator who would speak to all parties and submit a report. At that point the BOVM would engage their prosecutor for a formal discipline procedure. The prosecutor would prepare a stipulation and consent agreement and present it to the licensee. The licensee then has the option of accepting the agreement or asking the BOVM to amend the action or they may choose a formal hearing. If they choose a formal hearing in court, the burden of proof would be on them. **Chairman Rice** clarified that if the licensee asks for a hearing, what is the level of burden of proof that the BOVM uses to conclude that the licensee has committed the violation. **Ms. Ellis** stated that she is not qualified to answer this question. **Chairman Rice** said that he needs to know the difference between a fine and civil penalty, what burden of proof is needed and who must prove what. If the BOVM is making the licensee prove that they did not neglect their duties, rather than the BOVM having to prove that the licensee did commit the violation, there may be some constitutional questions. **Ms. Ellis** reiterate that even with the civil penalty this is voluntary. For example, if the BOVM found that a veterinarian had not fulfilled his or her continuing educational requirements, they could suggest a civil penalty, and the licensee can refute the allegation. In this case it would move on to formal discipline.

Senator Patrick said that this procedure is not any different than some of the other licensing boards; they are not a court of law, they are an agency.

Senator Lee stated she had concerns about the amount of the fine and questioned why a licensee would pay BOVM a \$500 to \$1,000 fine to forgo a disciplinary hearing. **Ms. Ellis** answered that the BOVM has the option of not pursuing disciplinary measures on licensees and certificate holders. If a licensee or certificate holder deliberately or carelessly disregards the requirements of the BOVM, it will take action.

Vice Chairman Bayer asked how many licensees in recent years have had formal discipline and non-disciplinary actions according to the existing code for record-keeping and continuing education? **Ms. Ellis** responded that BOVM has 12 open cases of formal discipline that have come from formal complaints, some from other veterinarians and some from owners. In the last two years BOVM has had five cases of non-disciplinary action for continuing education violations and two cases for record-keeping violations.

Vice Chairman Bayer asked with the broadening of the language, how many of BOVM complaints related to record-keeping and continuing education violations is BOVM handling? **Ms. Ellis** answered not more than two or three cases. **Vice Chairman Bayer** asked if the BOVM does not see the need for applying this formal discipline segment of the bill, except for rare circumstances, he did not see the value in having the provision in the proposed new language for an alternative to NDO.

Ms. Ellis answered that the language is to protect a small agency with the smallest budget of all the medical boards. In the case of a situation arising that needed formal discipline, the language and procedure would be in the statute.

A lengthy discussion ensued concerning the broadening of NDO and imposing a formal disciplinary action in the process of investigating licensee and certificate holder violations.

Vicki Smith, Executive Director of the Idaho Veterinary Medical Association (IVMA), stated the IVMA is in support of **H 382**. IVMA views this legislation as freedom for the practicing licensee or certificate holder by allowing the process of a NDO for minor violations. Individuals who are brought before the BOVM on a formal disciplinary action are usually not members of the IVMA. **Ms. Smith** indicated that their members see fewer of these violations through the IVMA education and mentoring. IVMA views the change in this legislation as giving more flexibility to the BOVM.

Senator Burgoyne stated that he agreed that the BOVM would benefit from legislation along these lines. However, he would like to have the opportunity to work on some amendments to make it a better bill.

MOTION: **Senator Burgoyne** moved that **H 382** be held subject to the call of the Chair. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PRESENTATION: Alfalfa and Clover Seed Commission (ACSC). **Rick Waitley**, Administrator, stated the ACSC annual report in the Committee members' packets details the activities of this past year. The ACSC received just under 6 million pounds of alfalfa seed at the current assessment of .004 cents per pound, which is collected at the first point of sale. The 2015 crop was down 1 million pounds from the previous year due to the reduction of alfalfa seed growers switching to production of other great commodity priced crops. The farmer who grows alfalfa seed is making a commitment for more than one growing season. The crop for next year will suffer lower production because of the increased vole population that is eating the stands of alfalfa.

ACSC is working on three research projects that were funded in 2015: 1) The Treasure Valley Pacific Northwest Pest Alert; 2) Idaho One Plan and 3) ACSC has entered into an agreement with Oregon State University to collaborate on troublesome weeds in alfalfa seed production.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, **Chairman Rice** adjourned the meeting at 9:27 a.m.

Senator Rice
Chair

Carol Deis
Secretary

2016 AGENDA

- | | | | |
|-------|---|-------|--|
| 8:00 | Registration / Coffee & Donuts
<i>Thanks to our sponsors!</i> | 11:30 | Alfalfa Seed Grower Practices
<i>Bill Buhrig, OSU Extension</i> |
| 8:25 | Welcome
<i>Dave Reynolds, IACSGA President</i> | 12:00 | State Association Meeting |
| 8:30 | Vole Control
<i>Ronda Hirnyck, ISDA</i> | 12:15 | Lunch
<i>Thanks to our sponsors!</i> |
| 9:00 | Transform Progress
<i>Todd Pilcher, DOW AgroSciences</i> | 1:00 | Alfalfa Seed Market Report
<i>Kevin Osborne, Allied Seed</i> |
| 9:30 | NAFA Update
<i>Leland Tiegs, NAFA</i> | 1:15 | Treasure Valley Refill
<i>Roger Batt, Treasure Valley Water Users</i> |
| 9:45 | Alfalfa Seed/Herbicide Trial
<i>Bill Buhrig, OSU Extension</i> | 2:00 | Water Outlook
<i>Ron Abramovich, USDA-NRCS</i> |
| 10:00 | Vendor Voices from Sponsors
& Break | 2:30 | Improving Bee Parasite Control
During Field Season
<i>Dr. Diana Cox-Foster, Logan Bee Lab</i>
<i>Dr. Ellen Klinger, Logan Bee Lab</i> |
| 10:30 | Lygus Report
<i>Dr. Jim Barbour, U of I Extension</i> | 3:00 | Adjourn |
| 11:00 | Seed Coatings
<i>Dr. Bing-Rui Ni, United Ag Technologies</i> | | PowerPoint Presentations can be found at:
www.pnwpestaalert.net |

THANK YOU TO OUR 2016 SPONSORS

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INTEGRATED BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS INC.
JWM LEAFCUTTERS INC.
LEGACY SEEDS INC.
NORTHWEST FARM CREDIT SERVICES
S&W SEED CO.
SIMPLOT GROWER SOLUTIONS

The Grower Associations gratefully acknowledge the 2016 industry sponsors who paid for food and room expenses.

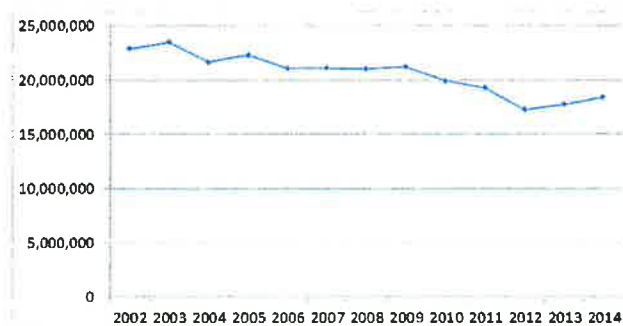


Alfalfa Acres & Research Expenditures

Alfalfa is key to sustainable agricultural systems and is an economic engine in rural communities - its value for soil conservation, nitrogen fixation, energy savings, crop rotation, and wildlife habitat is unsurpassed.

Alfalfa must offer a competitive value for farmers in order to provide these benefits and maintain or expand its acreage base. Being recognized in policy and research funding decisions is critical in keeping pace with other cropping choices.

U.S. Acreage 2002-2014 (-19.5%)



Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

FY '12 USDA Research Expenditures by Crop

Crop	\$million	Scientist Years	# of Projects
Corn	44.6	109.9	108
Cotton	42.6	104.2	68
Wheat	42.1	95	145
Soybean	34.5	82.9	84
Apple	9.9	24	26
Tomato	8.5	19.7	43
Sorghum	8.4	22.3	27
Greens/leafy veg	6.9	15.4	19
Alfalfa	3.7	9.9	14
Sunflower	3.2	8.1	8
Carrot	0.8	1.6	5
Canola	0.7	1.6	5

Source: 2012 USDA ARS CRIS Reports

A Success Story

EPA and Western Alfalfa Seed Growers Association

A partnership that ensures a consistent supply of high-quality alfalfa seed for the nation's fourth largest crop.

Alfalfa seed requires pollination by specific kinds of bees. In the Northwest, leafcutter and alkali bees are used. In California, leafcutter and honey bees are used.

Alkali bees are the only native pollinator used commercially in the United States. They are used to pollinate alfalfa seed in the Touchet area of Washington State.

- In the mid 1980's, alfalfa seed growers were losing effective pesticides that were safe to use during bloom time when pollinating bees were in the fields.
- In 1988, the Northwest Seed Growers petitioned EPA to regulate alfalfa seed production as a non-food/non-feed crop.
- In conjunction with State Departments of Agriculture, new state regulations were adopted to formalize agreements with the EPA. In Washington State for example, WAC 16-228-1270 states that for purposes of pesticide registration, alfalfa grown for seed, is considered a non-food/non-feed crop.

State Departments of Agriculture continue to audit and monitor seed production and seed conditioning practices.

Seed farmers themselves are the biggest advocates and policing group. They recognize and appreciate the importance of this law.

For over 20 years, the partnerships between EPA, State Agriculture Departments and alfalfa seed growers in 7 western states have allowed the growth and prosperity of the alfalfa seed industry, while simultaneously protecting our essential, sensitive bees.

In 2014, \$107 million worth of alfalfa seed was exported from the United States to countries around the world.

Providing high quality alfalfa seed for the nation's fourth largest crop, and other countries around the world, requires continued success of this unique partnership.



Leafcutter Bee



Alkali Bee



Honey Bee

The Western Alfalfa Seed Growers Association is a proud affiliate of the National Alfalfa & Forage Alliance (NAFA).



Alfalfa Seed and Forage Systems Research Program

Programmatic Funding Request

FY 2017 Request: **\$3 million**

The Alfalfa Seed and Forage Systems Research Program (AFRP) will effectively address the priority research needs of the alfalfa seed and forage systems industry for improving efficiency and sustainability of production through integrated, collaborative research and technology transfer. The program will focus on national priority research needs and needs of regional scope. The AFRP will provide a structure to encourage multi-disciplinary research networks which enhance limited state and industry resources.

Authorizing Language

Located in the *"High Priority Research and Extension Initiatives" of the 2014 Farm Bill (Section 7209):*
"(8) ALFALFA AND FORAGE RESEARCH PROGRAM.

Appropriations Language

Located in the *"Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, 2016":*

"Alfalfa and Forage Research - The Committee notes that research into alfalfa seed and alfalfa forage systems holds the potential to increase yields, increase milk production, and improve genetics. The Committee... support(s) research into the improvement of yields, water conservation, creation of new uses, and the development of new storage and harvest systems."

***Alfalfa is the
3rd most valuable
field crop in the US!***

Research Emphasis

Improving Alfalfa Seed & Forage Yield. Yield is the major determinant of profit for forage growers. However, diseases often limit yield and need to be identified and controlled. In addition, since manure is often applied to alfalfa, more information is needed to determine its effects on alfalfa growth, as well as its potential for disease transmission.

Persistence. Biotic (weeds, insects, other pests, frequent clipping, etc.) and abiotic (severe cold, high heat and humidity, drought, etc.) stresses are often very high. Persistence, therefore, is high on the forage list of research priorities.

Harvesting and Storage of Alfalfa. Yield monitoring equipment needs to be developed for alfalfa, such as that which currently exists for other small grain crops, to better monitor nutrient needs and removal from soil. Harvesting systems (hay, baleage, and silage) that reduce losses during the harvesting and storage process are critical to farm profitability.

Improving Estimates of Forage Quality. Fiber measurements currently being used to estimate energy levels in forage are less than accurate. Livestock producers, therefore, maximize grains in the rations they feed because the energy content of grains is more definitive, even though grains may be less economical and/or environmentally sound. Better forage quality tests will improve forage usage in animal rations.

Breeding. Research in forage crop breeding is needed to address seedling vigor (in order to improve establishment success), yield, production, and persistence.

Alfalfa and alfalfa forage systems are key to sustainable agricultural systems and are an economic engine in rural communities - their value for soil conservation, nitrogen fixation, energy savings, crop rotation, and wildlife habitat is unsurpassed.

Alfalfa and alfalfa forage systems must offer a competitive value for farmers in order to provide these benefits and maintain or expand its acreage base. Being recognized in research funding decisions is critical in keeping pace with other cropping choices.

Forage Facts

Industry Contribution. Industry contributes millions per year to forage related research, including variety evaluations, nutrition related analysis, and applied research.

Fertilizer Savings. One crop of moderately thin alfalfa plowed down provides the equivalent of up to 100 lbs of nitrogen per acre, enough to replace almost all of the fertilizer required by the following corn crop, the equivalent of 292,000 tons of anhydrous ammonia. This represents a savings of over 8 trillion BTUs of fossil fuel energy from natural gas.

Value of Hay in the U.S. Among field crops, the value of all hay produced in the United States is exceeded by only corn and soybeans. In 2014, all hay in the U.S. was valued at over \$21.8 billion.

Mitigating Accidental Chemical Spills. Alfalfa's high protein content makes it a valuable crop for cleaning up sites with too much nitrogen. Alfalfa was used at railroad derailment sites in both North Dakota and California to remove excess spilled nitrate from the soil and groundwater.

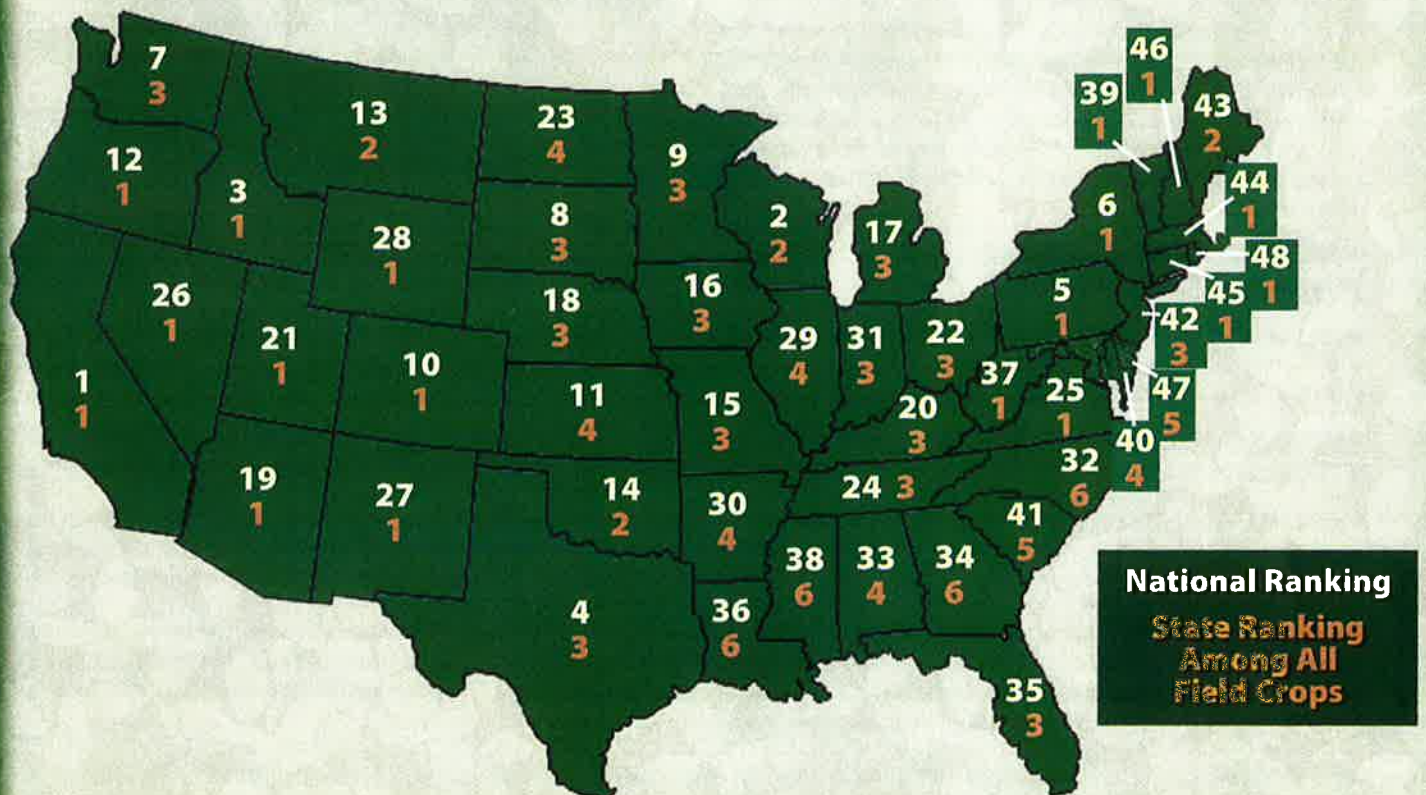
Forages Critical to Livestock Production. Grassland agriculture provides up to 90% of the feedstuffs consumed by livestock, critical to maintaining agricultural diversity. With its 98 million beef and dairy cattle, the forage-livestock industry contributed more than \$109 billion in farm sales in 2014 to the nation's economy.

Environmentally Friendly. Forages are environmentally friendly in that they reduce soil erosion, pesticide usage, and fertilizer application. In addition, forages increase soil structure and organic matter and enhance agricultural profitability.

Forage Benefits Everyone. Our nation's forage, grassland, and range resources cover about 55% of the land area of the United States and improve as well as protect the soil due to its capability to "fix" atmospheric nitrogen.

Value of Forage Production

Source: USDA-NASS (National Rank 2014 data)



National Alfalfa & Forage Alliance
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St. Paul, MN 55126
651.484.3888
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2015-16 Idaho Alfalfa & Clover Seed Commission

			Term Expires (June 30)
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	Paul Rasgorshek 12770 W Roosevelt Ave Nampa, ID 83686 paul.rasgorshek@landb.com	hm 208-466-7722 fax 208-466-4765 cell 208-880-0656	2016 ^^
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	Joe Weitz, Vice Chairman 16909 Marsing Rd Caldwell, ID 83607 jrwwesternfarms@gmail.com	cell 208-880-3445	2016 ^^
Dealer Member	Lynn Nichols Alforex Seeds 504 W Idaho Ave Homedale, ID 83628 l.nichols@alforexseeds.com	wk 208-337-4693 cell 208-899-3338	2016
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AMG Office Staff	Benjamin Kelly, Executive Assistant Cindy Pusey, Admin. Associate Mindy Crow, Admin. Associate Dorita Waitley, Special Projects Patty Nottingham, Financial Assistant Kyra Gibson, Marketing/Event Coordination	ph 208-888-0988 fax 208-888-4586 Nic Gibson, Graphic Design Joanne York, Admin. Associate	^ Terms served

THE PRODUCTION OF

IDAHO

Alfalfa Seed

The Preface: Seeding the World

From its original home in southwest Asia, alfalfa spread to many new countries in the company of people who loved horses. The Persians took it to Greece about 480 B.C.; the Saracens took it to Spain; the Spaniards took it to Mexico and South America, and from there it reached California and Texas in the 1800's.

Idaho is a national leader in alfalfa seed production. Idaho producers continue the flow of alfalfa seeds around the world by exporting a quality product both nationally and globally.

A maturing seedhead is a sign of success.



The Place: World Class Climate

Idaho's unique climate and geography help produce the finest alfalfa seed in the world. Rich soil, abundant water and a sunny growing season produce alfalfa seed that is winter hardy and vigorous. Continuous scientific seed research means that the resistance to disease, insects and other pests is genetically built into certified Idaho alfalfa seed. This translates into increased yields for growers and a healthier environment for us all.

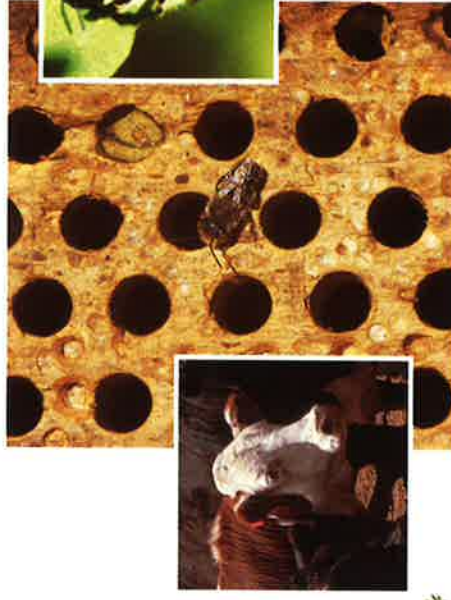
The Plant: A Positive Fixation

Alfalfa is a perennial (regrows every year) legume (a nitrogen fixing plant). It is prized for its role in transforming nitrogen in the air and soil into a form that can be absorbed by plants, a process known as "nitrogen fixation." As farmers continue to care for the soil, and as the cost of nitrogen fertilizers climbs, alfalfa has proven to economically improve soil. No other forage crop adds higher levels of naturally occurring nitrogen while increasing soil tilth and reducing soil erosion. The plant's high nutritional value and the fact that animals like to eat it, make alfalfa hay a perfect feed for many classes of livestock.

Attachment 2:

The Process: From Bees to Burgers

Did you realize that your favorite burger and milkshake depend upon a small gray bee with taste for alfalfa blossoms? The leafcutting bee was discovered in Idaho in the late 1950's allowing Idaho alfalfa producers to become the premier seed producers in the world. Alfalfa leafcutting bees pollinate alfalfa blossoms which produce the seed that is planted for hay. Beef cattle and dairy cows graze in pastures with alfalfa or are fed alfalfa hay. This agricultural food chain – from seed and bee milk products and beef – is critical to our nation's food supply.

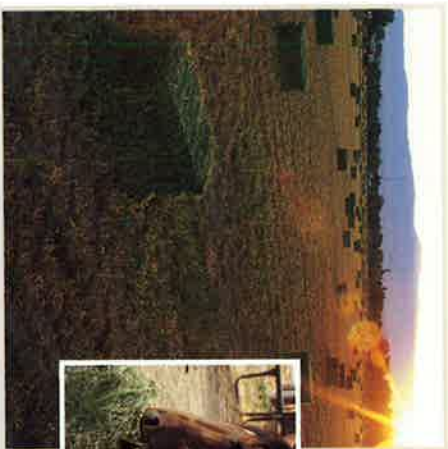


Seed growers provide man-made housing for "herds" of leafcutting bees, which pollinate alfalfa flowers, making seed. Alfalfa seed becomes nutritious hay for cows, making milk and beef. Burgers and shakes begin with bees!



The Product: A World of Uses

High quality alfalfa hay is a key to the efficient conversion of plant food into animal food products for human consumption . . . juicy T-bone steaks, ice cream, cheeseburgers . . . all get their start from alfalfa seed! People around the world still love horses, and the very best hay you can feed a horse is early cut alfalfa hay. Environmental concerns about erosion on cropland means that Idaho's alfalfa seed producers will continue their important role in worldwide soil conservation and improvement.



Alfalfa brings a beneficial harvest . . . a favorite feed, a natural fertilizer and effective erosion control.



THE IDAHO
Alfalfa Seed
COMMISSION

For Further Information:

Idaho State Department of Agriculture
2270 Old Penitentiary Road
PO Box 790

Boise, ID 83701-0790

708 323 8500

THE PRODUCTION OF
IDAHO
Alfalfa Seed



AMENDED AGENDA #2
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M.
Room WW53
Thursday, March 03, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
Minutes:	Approve Minutes of February 18, 2016	Senators Harris & Burgoyne
HCR 32	Commemorating the Pulse Crops for there vital source of plant-based proteins and eaten as a part of a healthy diet	Representative Troy
H 456	Relating to Grapes and Wine	Roger Batt, representing Idaho Grape and Wine Producers
H 499	Relating to Food	Representative Kauffman
Presentation:	Idaho Dairy Products Commission/United Dairymen of Idaho	Bob Naerebout, Executive Director

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Rice
Vice Chairman Bayer
Sen Patrick
Sen Souza
Sen Lee

Sen Den Hartog
Sen Harris
Sen Ward-Engelking
Sen Burgoyne

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Carol Deis
Room: WW31
Phone: 332-1330
email: sagri@senate.idaho.gov

MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, March 03, 2016

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rice, Senators Patrick, Souza, Lee, Den Hartog, Harris, Ward-Engelking and Burgoyne

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Vice Chairman Bayer

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Rice** called the meeting of the Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee to order at 8:00 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Harris** moved to approve the Minutes of February 18, 2016. **Senator Burgoyne** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

HCR 32 **Commemorating the Pulse Crops.** **Representative Troy** stated 2016 is recognized as the International Year of the Pulses. Pulse crops are lentils, beans, peas and chickpeas they are a vital source of plant- based proteins and amino acids for people around the globe. These products should be eaten as part of a healthy diet to address obesity, as well as to prevent and help manage chronic diseases such as diabetes, coronary conditions and cancer.

The Idaho Pea and Lentil Commission (IPLC) manages the funds collected from the assessment on 200,000 acres per year of this pulse crop of dry peas, lentils and chickpeas. The IPLC allocates funding for research, domestic and international marketing, government affairs and education. In addition to IPLC, the United States Dry Pea and Lentil Council is also headquartered in Moscow, Idaho, with many of the same functions as the IPLC. Moscow, Idaho, is known as the Pea and Lentil Capital of the World.

MOTION: **Senator Patrick** moved to send **HCR 32** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Lee** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

H 456 **Relating to Grapes and Wine.** **Roger Batt**, representing Idaho Grape and Wine Producers Commission (IGWPC), stated this legislation contains a section of statute relating to the IGWPC granting the authority to IGWC to levy a tax on grapes that are produced in Idaho along with grapes that are purchased from out-of-state producers for the production of wine. This legislation has three components: 1) It removes statutory language that is inconsistent with the IGWPC's Administrative Rules, which were adopted by the Idaho Legislature in 2010. IGWPC set tax structures in the rule that are inconsistent with the way the tax is levied in the language on lines 17 through 19 of the bill. IGWPC is striking this language out of the legislation to be compliant with the rules. 2) Minor corrections have been made to the legislation to make it easier to read. 3) The legislation would allow IGWPC the authority to set the tax on grape juice purchased in Idaho for the production of wine in Idaho. The IGWPC currently has the authority to tax out-of-state grape juice for the production of wine in Idaho but not grape juice purchased in State for the production of wine in Idaho (see attachment 1).

Senator Souza asked if any of the wine growers have chosen to opt out of paying the levy tax. **Mr. Batt** said there have been wine growers who have opted out of paying the levy tax, but it is a very low percentage. Four years ago, two producers opted out.

MOTION:

Senator Burgoyne moved to send **H 456** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Ward-Engelking** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

H 499

Relating to Food. **Representative Kauffman** stated that the Food Safety and Modernization Act (FSMA) was signed into law in January 2011. It requires the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to increase foreign and imported inspections to protect public health. At the same time it requires a minimum inspection frequency on domestic and production processing facilities. To implement this action, the agency has indicated that they must shift additional responsibilities for some of the domestic inspection to the states in order to cover all the aspects of the FSMA. State governments have two main agencies with authority over safety and inspection; they are the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) and the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA). Food safety activities have fallen under the jurisdiction of IDHW in the absence of other government oversight. In practice the IDHW has been the main authority over retail food safety. There are other areas of government oversight with respect to wholesale-type food activities of production and processing. In Idaho the food processing inspection is allocated in several ways; dairy is inspected by ISDA, non-dairy processors are inspected by FDA and IDHW has been the backup authority for food safety with respect to food processors of all types.

About a year ago Director Gould of ISDA brought together a broad group of agriculture interests to serve on a Food Safety Committee (FSC) to provide her with feedback on the implementation process in Idaho, which covers production, processing, animal feed and transportation. Those in the arena of food production and processing are more comfortable working with ISDA. This bill sets Idaho on a path to have backup authority for non-retail activities shift to ISDA. As Idaho implements FSMA rules, having the expertise centralized at the ISDA makes sense to those who work in agriculture.

Elizabeth Criner, Lobbyist representing the Northwest Food Processors Association, said **H 499** implements two aspects specifically: 1) It establishes the ISDA as the overarching authority for implementation of FSMA in Idaho for non-retail activities and 2) establishes a process to move forward in the future for the adoption of rulemaking process with IDHW to ensure that no aspect of food safety falls through the cracks. The FSMA will increase food inspections in processing and production. This will give Idaho a chance to have a level of expertise for a network of inspectors in the future. **Ms. Criner** explained that the FSC, that Director Gould convened, decided that Idaho was not ready to proceed forward with the rulemaking process to put FSMA in place. There are many unknowns with respect to the FSMA implementation and they want to see how Washington and Oregon will proceed in adopting this act. Washington and Oregon have very robust food safety programs at their respective departments of agriculture. Both have been leaders in working with industry in food safety for a number of years. Idaho chooses to see how the process will unfold with costs and number of inspectors to make sure that Idaho will be moving in the right direction with implementation.

Senator Souza asked if IDHW will have supervisory capacity over all aspects of FSMA. **Patrick Guzzle**, Food Protection Program Manager, IDHW, Division of Public Health, stated there is not a yes or no answer to this question. Current statute reads that IDHW does have regulatory jurisdiction over all aspect of food within Idaho. Idaho is one of only two states that has specific language in the statute that says, "if a food firm is subject to federal inspection it is not subject to local or state inspection."

Because of the language, **Mr. Guzzle** works closely with each of the health districts throughout the State; the health districts are separate and autonomous agencies. IDHW's Food Protection Program works very closely with health districts in the inspection of food processing firms. The information that is provided to IDHW is sent to the FDA so it can determine whether the firm is subject to federal inspection. If the firm is subject to federal inspection, the health districts are then no longer associated with inspecting that firm. If the FDA determines a firm is not subject to federal inspection, then the health districts license and inspect at a food processing firm. **Senator Souza** asked if a processing firm falls under the FDA inspection jurisdiction, does that mean Idaho has no ability to inspect the facility? **Mr. Guzzle** explained that currently if FDA notifies IDHW that a firm is subject to federal inspection, the health district will not license and inspect the firm unless there is a public health investigation. **Ms. Criner** stated what they are envisioning in the legislation is that the ISDA would have the primary role of inspections.

Senator Burgoyne stated the language conveys that there may be a transference of certain authority from the IDHW or health districts to ISDA concerning non-retail activities on line 14, page 1 of the bill. **Ms. Criner** replied that production agriculture, food processing and processing for animal feed are examples of non-retail activity. Idaho is in the early stages of the implementation of the FSMA; the FDA has a memorandum of understanding with IDHW to carry out inspections on 75 processors in the State. **Senator Burgoyne** asked for clarification on non-retail activities that are performed by either IDHW or health districts. Are their some non-retail activities that are not subject to federal regulation? **Ms. Criner** responded no, not in the processor world. In the production world this will be a new area of having the potential of field inspections dealing with implementation of the produce safety segment. All of the processors are covered under the FDA. **Senator Burgoyne** said what gets picked up under the FSMA to qualify the language of non-retail activities. **Ms. Criner** answered the additional activity would be the produce safety rule. **Senator Burgoyne** concluded that there are some things, based on the language in the bill, which IDHW and health districts perform that would come under the jurisdiction of ISDA. **Ms. Criner** replied in the affirmative, but said those activities are under a memorandum of understanding between FDA and IDHW. The inspections are contracted with IDHW because the FDA does not have enough inspectors to do every inspection. In the future, if they choose the process that is established in a section below in the legislation then it will fall under the ISDA. In that process it would envision additional inspections occurring across the State; if they increase the number of inspections they would prefer to have a centralized force of inspectors for a global marketplace. Idaho has standards far above what FSMA requires the processors to meet because of this marketplace.

Senator Burgoyne asked if the Legislature decides to seek primacy and have the State carry out FSMA in Idaho, then these activities will be carried out by the ISDA. **Ms. Criner** answered in the affirmative and added ultimately the responsibility of the FSMA falls back on the FDA. If the State was not doing what it needed to do, the FDA would be the fall-back. **Senator Burgoyne** asked if the IDHW or the health districts are currently doing most of the work, why would the State want to transfer that work from IDHW to ISDA. **Ms. Criner** replied that IDHW and the health districts are actually doing a very small number of inspections. **Senator Burgoyne** then asked for a breakdown of the percentages of all of the inspections that are being done by the State. **Mr. Guzzle** said that there are non-retail firms that are currently inspected and licensed by the health districts. He did not know the exact number but estimated that there were approximately 10,000 food establishments in the State; about 95 percent are retail firms. The health districts are licensing and inspecting 200 firms that are non-retail.

Chairman Rice clarified that there are multiple silos under FSMA: retail activity that is regulated by IDHW; non-retail activity that is not covered by FSMA and not regulated by the FDA; processors that the FDA regulates but contracts with IDHW for inspection; and other firms that the FDA inspects and regulates. **Mr. Guzzle** explained the retail activities are restaurants, grocery stores and cottage foods. Non-retail firms sell food on a third-party basis either by wholesale transactions or to other parties that are not direct to the consumer. Those firms are subject to federal inspection, which means their finished products or their raw materials are crossing state lines or they are not subject to federal inspections. The health districts are currently licensing and inspecting those firms that are not subject to federal inspection. In addition, IDHW contracts with FDA to conduct 75 inspections per year of firms that are subject to federal inspection. **Ms. Criner** said having a single entity that you go to when you are operating multiple facilities in a state dealing with different health districts (where there is an autonomous relationship between the district and the department) creates a gray area. IDHW thinks it is important for the integrity of the industry that if there are going to be more inspections done at the state level that it is done by a central entity such as ISDA that would have a statewide network and a level of expertise.

Ms. Criner emphasized the reason for FSMA is to ensure the integrity of our food. If the integrity of food safety deteriorates, the industry would not survive in the U.S., let alone globally. The protection of food producer's reputation is protected not by promotion but by producing the best quality, safest food in the world. This is the primary concern for having the best inspector in the food firms to ensure that safety.

Chairman Rice clarified that FSMA is connecting up the food from the field all the way through the processing to the completion of transportation. FSMA's approach is to keep the field through the processor together. **Ms. Criner** stated that is correct.

Benjamin Kelly, representing Food Producers of Idaho, said that the Food Producers are in support of **H 499**.

MOTION:

Senator Lee moved to send **H 499** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

Senator Burgoyne said health districts were purposely created to take account of Idaho's regional diversity and have led to inconsistencies in many health programs. How this legislation is implemented if primacy occurs in ISDA becomes extremely important that there is no mixing of production or promotion oriented incentive with food safety inspections. **Ms. Criner** replied that ISDA has a responsibility for public food safety under FSMA is **H 499**. is passed. how this legislation is implemented if primacy occurs in the ISDA becomes extremely important so that there is no mixing of production or promotion oriented incentives with food safety inspections.

Representative Kauffman indicated that FSMA came about because the U.S. is trying to move from having a reactive food safety program to having a preemptive one. The producers and processors believe that this process will be handled best under ISDA.

Senator Lee stated that this is a policy decision that offers Idaho the opportunity of a thoughtful approach in the implementation of FSMA. To put the inspections back in IDHW when the producers have strong relationships with the regulators that are already coming into their facilities does not make sense. This is an opportunity for an Idaho solution to what many producers see as a federal intrusion. She acknowledged the efforts of IDHW and ISDA for bringing this legislation forward in response to the industries' concerns.

PRESENTATION: Idaho Dairy Products Commission/United Dairymen of Idaho. Bob

Naerebout, Executive Director, Idaho Dairymen's Association (IDA), began his presentation pointing out that IDA was formed in 1924 and works to protect Idaho's dairy industries through environmental, legal and legislative leadership. There has been a move in the last decade to establish an environmental research station for livestock in the Magic Valley. IDA has committed \$3 million towards the establishment of the research center.

Mr. Bob Naerebout then presented past and present census information on the dairy and cow population. Herds of under 200 cows, 131 dairies; 201-500 cows, 94 dairies; 501 to 1,000 cows, 95 dairies; 1,001 to 2,000 cows, 91 dairies; and 2001-plus cows, 91 dairies. The Dairy Industry is basically located in three sections of the State: Eastern Idaho with 111 dairies; the Magic Valley with 296 dairies; and Treasure Valley with 95 dairies. In 1970 there were 8,500 dairies with 144,000 cows; in 2003 there were 774 dairies with 358,213 cows; and in 2016 there are 502 dairies with 566,611 cows. The trend of having fewer dairies but larger operations is a national trend. In 1980 there were 225,000 licensed dairies in the U.S. In 2000 it was down to 70,000 dairies and 2016 the industry is down to 45,000 dairies.

Milk production for 2015 was 14.08 billion pounds. When there is an oversupply of milk in Idaho, the milk is shipped out of the State and will be sold at a distressed price. The industry's goal is to grow the processors' capacity as the milk supply increases (see attachment 2).

Mr. Bob Naerebout introduced **Mr. Rick Naerebout**, who explained the IDA's focus for sustainability in their industry: social, environmental and economic. The dairy industry spends a great deal of time and effort being engaged on immigration and refugee resettlement debates and discussions. At the local level they have been working with the University of Idaho to do a study of the impact of foreign-born labor on rural economies. This study has produced much needed data to help Legislators and the dairy industry understand the positive benefits of those foreign born participants in their communities. In the Magic Valley they receive approximately 300 refugees per year and they are starting to see these individuals become a labor force for the dairy industry. They have dairymen looking to this resettlement program as an opportunity to hire individuals. Dairy jobs are among the best opportunities for higher paying jobs. **Mr. Bob Naerebout** serves on two national immigration boards.

Mr. Rick Naerebout explained that the IDA stepped back and looked at their industry through consumer and society expectations. Nutrient management and water quality are two areas of consumer concern. There were only two nutrient management planners within Idaho outside of ISDA. IDA decided to hire a private nutrient planner this year. Dr. Stephanie Kulesza was hired to be the lead in their nutrient management and water quality initiatives. An unintentional gain that they hadn't anticipated when they hired her was the benefit of having this expertise available to them for their own staff.

Processors must grow along with the dairies because they cannot maintain a healthy milk price if that ratio is not in place. Today they are starting to see their competitive pricing slip because they have more milk supply than processing capacity; another processor will need to come to the State. This translates into an additional 750 pounds of milk per day that they have to find a way to process. There is a tremendous amount of production in the world market; Idaho exports 15 to 20 percent of its total production into the world market. The European Union has lifted its quota program for the first time in 30 years; Holland's increases in 2015 have placed that annual increase equivalent to one month of Idaho's total milk production. The forecast for milk price recovery is sometime in 2017; this means Idaho's average dairy will lose money in 2016.

Senator Patrick asked what the dairy industry does with the excess milk when they do not have the capacity to process it. **Mr. Rick Naerebout** answered that cooperatives will start pushing milk to other processing plants in neighboring states or milk is stair-stepped east across the country to manage the milk supply.

Senator Patrick asked what percent of the price of milk covers the cost of feed? **Mr. Rick Naerebout** replied it is 40 to 50 percent.

Senator Harris said it takes hay, corn and water to feed these cows and make milk. Can the dairy industry maintain its growth in Idaho with the resources we have? **Mr. Rick Naerebout** responded that growth has been slow since 2009. Up to that point growth was about 2 percent but competition for feed is becoming an inhibiting factor.

Senator Souza asked what the entry-level wage is for an immigrant worker. **Mr. Bob Naerebout** stated that the immigration/refugee debate is as much a moral issue as it is a workforce development issue for this country. A starting wage on a dairy or in the processing industry is \$12 to \$15 per hour and goes up from there. **Senator Burgoyne** asked how he sees immigrant labor supply impacting dairy and other industries. **Mr. Bob Naerebout** answered that the dairy industry jobs are entry-level positions and then the employee would advance from there. The dairy industry does not have a visa program available to them to acquire workers; so for their industry the future will be a lack of labor.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, **Chairman Rice** adjourned the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

Senator Rice
Chair

Carol Deis
Secretary

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**IDAPA 48
TITLE 01
CHAPTER 01**

IDAPA 48 - IDAHO GRAPE GROWERS AND WINE PRODUCERS COMMISSION

48.01.01 - RULES OF THE IDAHO GRAPE GROWERS AND WINE PRODUCERS COMMISSION

000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

This chapter is adopted in accordance with Section 54-3605(15), Idaho Code. (3-19-07)

001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

01. Title. These rules shall be cited in full as IDAPA 48.01.01, "Rules of the Idaho Grape Growers and Wine Producers Commission." (3-19-07)

02. Scope. These rules include, but are not limited to, levy of taxes and penalties as provided by Section 54-3610, Idaho Code. (3-19-07)

002. WRITTEN INTERPRETATIONS.

This Commission may have written statements which pertain to the interpretation of the rules of this chapter, or to the documentation of compliance with the rules of this chapter. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission office. (3-19-07)

003. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.

The Idaho Rules of Administrative Procedure of the Attorney General on contested cases, IDAPA 04.11.01, "Idaho Rules of Administrative Procedure," Section 100, et seq., shall apply. (3-19-07)

004. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.

There are no documents that have been incorporated by reference into these rules. (3-19-07)

005. OFFICE INFORMATION.

01. Street Address. The offices of the Commission are located at 821 W. State Street, Boise, Idaho. (3-19-07)

02. Mailing Address. The mailing address of the Commission is 821 W. State Street, Boise, Idaho 83702. (3-19-07)

03. Telephone Number. The telephone number of the Commission is (208) 332-1538. (3-19-07)

04. Facsimile. The Commission's FAX number is (208) 334-2505. (3-19-07)

05. Electronic Address. The Commission's website at <http://www.idahowines.org>. (3-19-07)

006. PUBLIC RECORDS ACT COMPLIANCE.

Commission records are subject to the provisions of the Idaho Public Records Act, Title 9, Chapter 3, Idaho Code. (3-19-07)

007. -- 009. (RESERVED)

010. DEFINITIONS.

The definitions set forth in Title 54, Chapter 36, Idaho Code, shall apply to this chapter. In addition, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below: (3-29-10)

01. Applicant. An individual or organization who has submitted a written request for grant funds. (3-29-10)

02. Program. The Grape and Wine Promotion, Education and Research Grant Program established by Section 021 of these rules. (3-29-10)

03. Recipient. An individual or organization who has been awarded a grant under the Program. (3-29-10)

011. – 019. (RESERVED)

020. TAX AND LATE PAYMENT PENALTY.

01. Levy and Rate of Tax. In accordance with Section 54-3610, Idaho Code, a tax is levied and imposed on wineries and grapes used, grown, or purchased for the production of wine in Idaho. The rate of tax shall be: (3-19-07)

a. Four cents (\$.04) per gallon of wine produced during the previous calendar year. (3-29-10)

b. Seven dollars (\$7) per ton of grapes harvested in Idaho for the purpose of vinification during the previous calendar year. (3-29-10)

c. Seven dollars (\$7) per ton for grapes purchased from producers outside Idaho for the production of wine in Idaho during the previous calendar year. (3-29-10)

d. Six dollars and sixty-eight cents (\$6.68) per one hundred sixty-seven (167) gallons, or any portion thereof, of grape juice purchased from producers outside Idaho for the production of wine in Idaho during the previous calendar year. (3-29-10)

e. The tax rates set forth in Paragraphs 020.01.a. through 020.01.d., shall be phased in over a three-year (3) period as follows: (3-29-10)

i. Thirty-three percent (33%) in fiscal year 2010; (3-29-10)

ii. Sixty-six percent (66%) in fiscal year 2011; and (3-29-10)

iii. One hundred percent (100%) in fiscal year 2012 and all subsequent years, except that the maximum tax levied upon any winery for fiscal year 2010 shall be one thousand dollars (\$1,000). (3-29-10)

02. Minimum Levy. The minimum taxes paid by any grower or winery shall be one hundred dollars (\$100) annually. (3-29-10)

03. Payment of Tax. The grower harvesting grapes for the production of wine shall pay the tax levied upon the grower. Each winery shall pay the tax levied upon the winery. Purchasers of grapes grown or grape juice produced outside Idaho shall pay taxes levied on such grapes and grape juice. All taxes shall be paid on or before June 30 of each year. (3-29-10)

04. Late Payment Penalty. Persons making payment of the levied tax after the date set forth in this chapter shall be subject to a late payment penalty of fifteen percent (15%) per annum on the amount due. In addition to the late payment penalty, the Commission shall be entitled to recover all costs, fees, and reasonable attorney's fees incurred in the collection of the tax and penalty provided for in Section 020 of these rules. (3-19-07)

05. Opt Out Alternative. A grower or producer may opt out of the levy of tax by submitting a letter to the Commission no later than June 30 of each year stating intent to opt out of the application of the provisions of Title 54, Chapter 36, Idaho Code, for the upcoming fiscal year. The letter shall include the grower or producer's name and address. (3-19-07)

021. GRAPE AND WINE PROMOTION, EDUCATION, AND RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM.

01. Program Objective. The objective of the Program is to promote the development of markets for Idaho grapes and grape by-products, provide research concerning grapes and grape by-products, and encourage the education of individuals, organizations, and the community concerning the production of grapes and grape by-products in Idaho. (3-29-10)

02. Eligible Applicants. Individuals, organizations, and educational entities may submit applications for funding from the Program. No official, officer, or employee of the Commission, or any child, parent, sibling, or household member of an official, officer, or employee of the Commission is eligible to submit an application for funding from the Program. A grower or producer not otherwise ineligible may apply for funding from the Program if such funding satisfies the Program objectives and does not primarily promote the interests of the Applicant. (3-29-10)

03. Eligible Activities and Costs. Eligible costs for the use of Program funds are limited to: (3-29-10)

- a.** Tuition and fees for education or training; (3-29-10)
- b.** Acquisition of supplies, materials, and equipment for promotion, research, education, or training activities; (3-29-10)
- c.** Speaking fees or honoraria for promotion, education, or training activities; (3-29-10)
- d.** Fees for use of a facility or equipment necessary to conduct research, promotion, education, or training activities; (3-29-10)
- e.** Advertising and printing costs directly related to promotion, research, education, or training activities; and (3-29-10)
- f.** Matching funds for other state, federal, or foundation grants satisfying the objectives of the Program. (3-29-10)

04. Ineligible Activities and Costs. Grant funds shall not be used for: (3-29-10)

- a.** Political, lobbying, religious, or illegal activities; or (3-29-10)
- b.** Payroll and administrative costs routinely incurred by a Recipient. (3-29-10)

05. Application, Review, and Award. (3-29-10)

a. Applications for Program grants may be submitted at any time. Applicants shall submit a grant proposal in the format required by the Commission. Copies of the application format requirements and the list of supporting information may be obtained by contacting the Commission at the address set forth in Section 005 of these rules. (3-29-10)

b. Commission staff review proposals for completeness and compliance with these rules and make recommendations for funding to the Commission. The Commission may establish review committees consisting of Commission staff, Commission members, growers and producers, or other individuals. (3-29-10)

c. The Commission, in its sole discretion, makes all Program grant awards. The Commission may establish conditions or requirements for the expenditure of grant funds in a written agreement between the Commission and the Recipient. Conditions and requirements may include the submission of reports and receipts, acknowledgement of the grant in written materials, the provision of matching funds from the Recipient, or the repayment of grant funds upon specified events. (3-29-10)

06. Compliance with Law. All Recipients shall comply with applicable law in the conduct of activities funded by the Program. Public entities and employees receiving or administering Program funds shall comply with the ethics, personnel, bidding, and accounting requirements generally applicable to the entity or individual. (3-29-10)

07. Termination of Funding. The Commission may terminate Program grants at any time for: (3-29-10)

a. Use of funds in violation of these rules; (3-29-10)

b. Violation of the terms of the grant; or (3-29-10)

c. Violation of any applicable law. (3-29-10)

08. Receipt of Written Notice of Termination. Upon receipt of a written notice of termination, the Recipient shall immediately cease all expenditures of Program funds and return all unspent Program funds. The Commission may require a written accounting of the use of Program funds upon the termination of funding and may deny payment of costs yet to be paid and not substantiated by written documentation. (3-29-10)

022. -- 999. (RESERVED)

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Attachment 2:



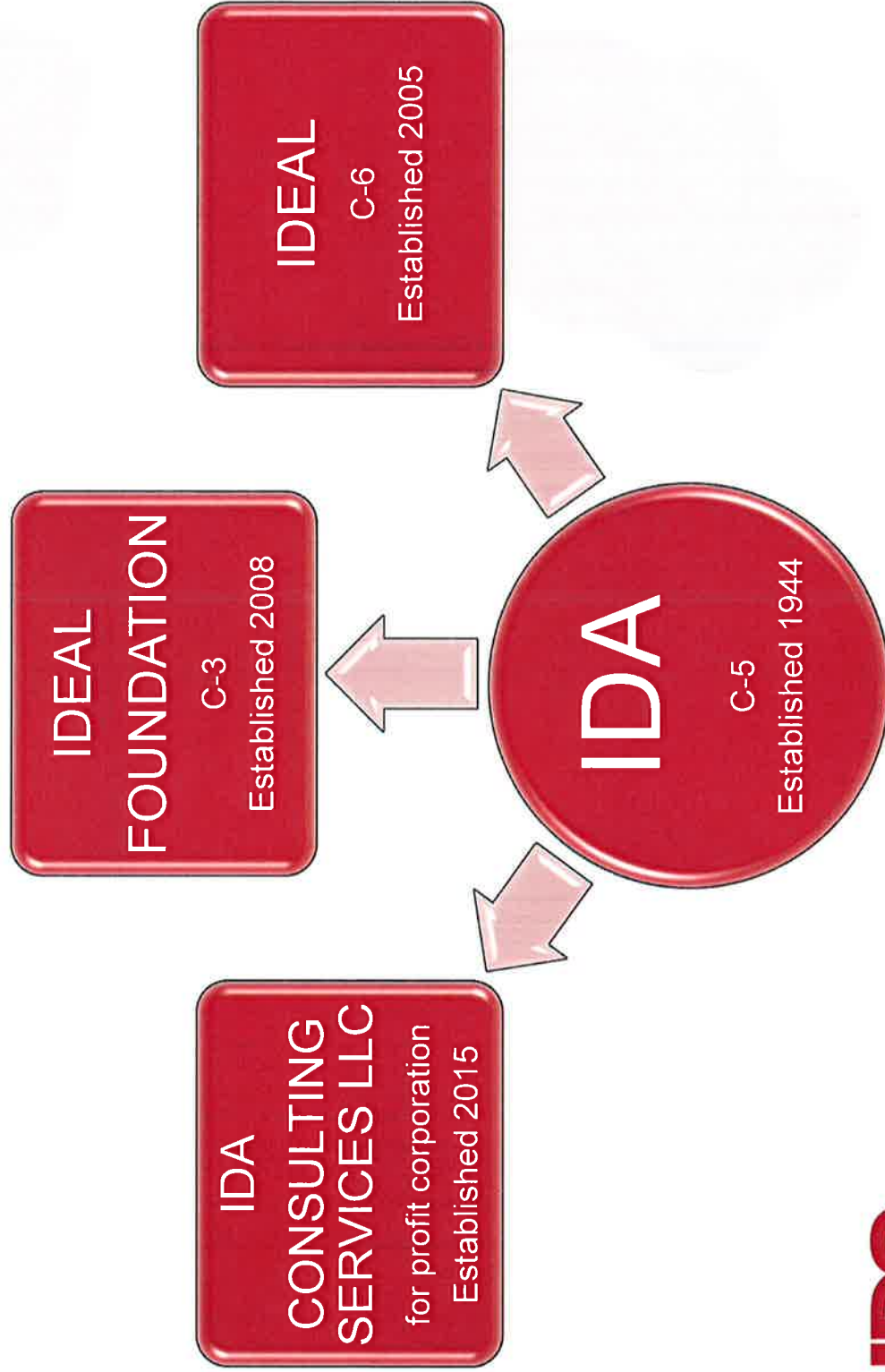
Idaho Dairy Industry Update

Agricultural Affairs Committees
March 2016



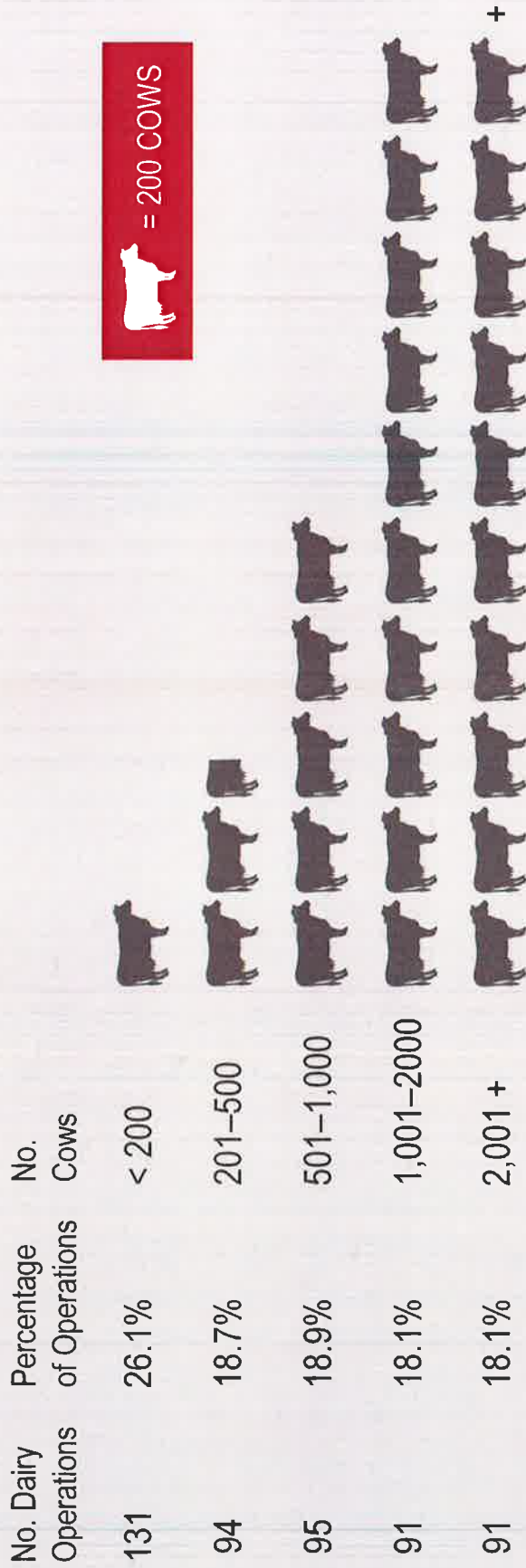
Idaho Dairymen's Association, Inc.

Protecting Idaho's dairy industry through
environmental, legal and legislative
leadership, since 1924



Idaho Dairy Operation by Size

Numbers provided by ISDA – December 2015

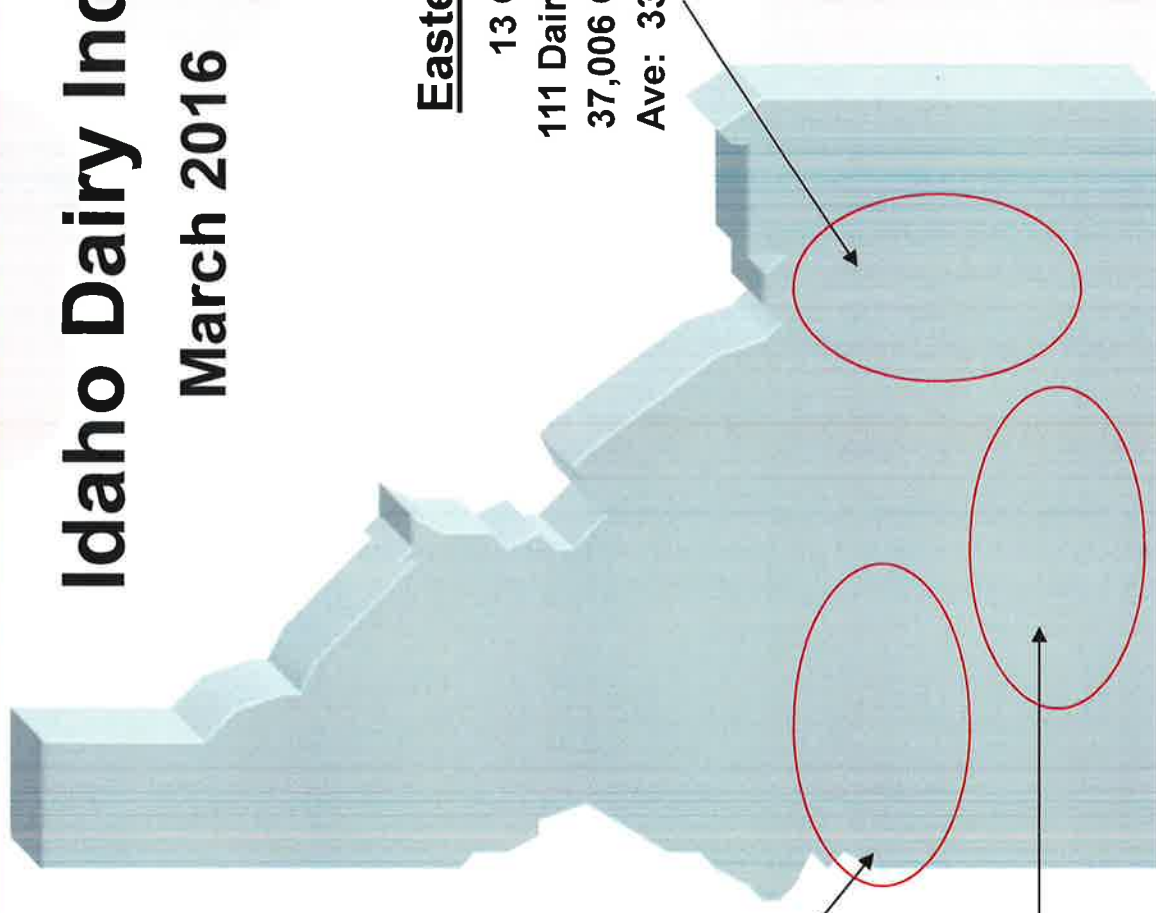


TOTAL DAIRY OPERATIONS: **500**

MILK COWS IN IDAHO: **563,292**

Idaho Dairy Industry

March 2016



Eastern Idaho

13 Counties
111 Dairies 22.1%
37,006 Cows 6.6%
Ave: 333 cows/dairy

Treasure Valley

8 Counties
95 Dairies 18.9%
119,483 cows 21.1%
Ave: 1,258 cows/dairy

Magic Valley

6 Counties
296 Dairies 52.4%
410,122 Cows 72.8%
Ave: 1,386 cows/dairy

Dairying in Idaho - 3rd in the Nation

■ 1970	8,500 Dairies 144,000 cows
■ 2003	774 Dairies 358,213 cows
■ 2016	502 Dairies 566,611 cows

Idaho Milk Production



Idaho Processing

December 2015

MAGIC VALLEY

Glanbia Foods, Richfield
Glanbia Foods, Gooding
Glandia Foods, Twin Falls
Jerome Cheese, Jerome
Darigold, Jerome
Idaho Milk Products, Jerome
Cloverleaf Creamery, Buhl
Chobani, Twin Falls
Gossner Foods, Heyburn
High Desert Milk, Burley
Brewster Cheese, Rupert
Stoker Wholesale, Burley
Commercial Creamery, Jerome
Ballard Cheese, Gooding

TREASURE VALLEY

Sorrento Lactalis, Nampa
Darigold, Caldwell
Darigold, Boise
MeadowGold, Boise
Marathon Cheese, Mountain Home

EASTERN IDAHO

Reed's Dairy, Idaho Falls
Glanbia Blackfoot Cheese Division,
Blackfoot
Nelson Ricks Cheese, Rexburg

IDA's Commitment to Sustainability

- Social
 - Engaging in the immigration reform and refugee resettlement debates
 - Putting financial and staff resources towards research and joining organizations that are moving the conversation forward
- Environmental
 - Hired Dr. Stephanie Kulesza to be our lead in nutrient management and water quality initiatives
- Economic
 - Continuing to encourage economic development within Idaho through regional organizations
 - The milk is here and waiting for more processing capacity!

2016 Dairy Economics Expectations

- Milk prices are currently in the mid \$13's per cwt
 - Expect to see prices drop into the \$12's
 - EU is producing a lot of additional milk in their post quota era
 - Holland's 2015 increases alone equal about a month of Idaho's production
 - New Zealand is only major exporting country with negative production growth
 - Recover is not expected until sometime in 2017
- Feed costs are lower
 - Hay prices are hovering around \$100-\$125/ton
 - Silage prices are expected to be \$28-\$32/ton in the field
 - Grain prices are lower, but basis is still high
- Bottom line: Idaho's average dairy will lose money in 2016

AGENDA
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M.
Room WW53
Tuesday, March 08, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
Minutes Approval:	Approve Minutes of February 23, 2016	Senators Den Hartog and Ward-Engelking
H 469	Relating to Noxious Weeds	Representative Dayley
H 524	Relating to the Torture of Companion Animals	Senator Rice

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Rice	Sen Den Hartog
Vice Chairman Bayer	Sen Harris
Sen Patrick	Sen Ward-Engelking
Sen Souza	Sen Burgoyne
Sen Lee	

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Carol Deis
Room: WW31
Phone: 332-1330
email: sagri@senate.idaho.gov

MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, March 08, 2016

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rice, Vice Chairman Bayer, Senators Patrick, Souza, Lee, Den Hartog, Harris, Ward-Engelking and Burgoyne

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Rice** called the meeting of the Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee to order at 8:02 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Ward-Engelking** moved to approve the Minutes of February 23, 2016. **Senator Lee** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

H 469 **Relating to Noxious Weeds. Representative Dayley** stated the purpose of this legislation is to make one minor amendment to S 1073, passed in 2015, adding a new paragraph defining a private research facility.

Dennis Tanikuni, Assistant Director of Governmental Affairs, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation (IFBF), said the IFBF is in support of this legislation.

MOTION: **Senator Harris** moved to send **H 469** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Patrick** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Rice passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Bayer.

H 524 **Relating to the Torture of Companion Animals. Senator Rice** said **H 524** is the product of the cattlemen, dairymen and others seeking a clarification of definitions in the animal cruelty section of Idaho Code § 25-3502. The code defines torture of an animal as the intentional knowing and willful infliction of unjustifiable and extreme or prolonged pain, mutilation or maiming done for the purpose of causing suffering. Torture shall not mean or include acts of omission, neglect, acts committed unintentionally or by accident. Torture shall not mean or include normal or legal practices as provided in Idaho Code § 25-3502. The clarification of the definition is for those circumstances that are more egregious, and the definition seeks to narrowly address those actions. A new section to Idaho Code § 25-3504a provides for a first-time misdemeanor and a second-time felony if someone has been convicted within ten years prior to conviction of torturing a companion animal, has been convicted of a felony offense involving the voluntary infliction of bodily injury upon any human. The reason for separating this out is sub-part 5, which states that before sentencing an individual convicted of a violation of this section, the court shall order and consider a presentence investigation that shall include a psychological evaluation of the defendant.

Sub-part 5 is important for situations in which someone causing suffering to a companion animal; is there is a much stronger likelihood that the individual has a mental illness. Those mental illnesses need to be identified, treated and handled so as to mitigate risk to people.

By making psychological evaluation mandatory, the court system can apply treatment at an early stage. On page 4, the bill provides that prior to sentencing, on all other animal cruelty cases, the court may in its discretion order a pre-sentence psychological evaluation. If the prosecutor requests a pre-sentencing psychological evaluation, the court shall determine whether a pre-sentence evaluation is warranted and order the evaluation as they deem fit. This legislation calls the courts to take this approach to look first at mental illness and appropriate treatment.

Senator Patrick said on the page 1, line 36 (d) addresses knowingly abandoning an animal. People dump their animals off in the country and think some farmer will take them in. Is this piece of legislation pertinent to this type of animal abandonment?

Senator Rice explained if you look at line 36, they have inserted the word "knowingly" to the phrase "abandon an animal." There are possible abandonment situations that are not knowing, such as an owner of an animal who cannot find their dog or cat and they give up looking. If an individual dumps an animal in the middle of nowhere, that would constitute knowingly abandoning the animal.

Senator Lee stated that one of her constituents was concerned how hunting dogs fit into this statute. Would they be considered working dogs or domestic? **Senator Rice** pointed Senator Lee to lines 23 and 24: "companion animal means those animals solely kept as pets and not used as production animals, as defined in this section." A hunting dog is not solely kept as a pet. It is kept for other purposes than as a pet, so hunting dogs would not fall within the definition of companion animal.

Brent Olmstead, Executive Director, Milk Producers of Idaho, spoke in support of **H 524**. He cited the following reasons for his support: 1. it reenforces that this is a companion animal bill and does not deal with production agriculture; 2. the bill has a clear definition of torture; 3. the provision allows for a felony offense for someone who has a history of abuse; and 4. it includes a section dealing with psychological evaluations. The proper venue for curing individuals who commit animal abuse is in the behavioral health arena. The earlier the intervention to identify and treat individuals who have committed this offense, the better the outcome.

Bob Naerebout, Executive Director, Idaho Dairyman's Association (IDA), spoke in support of **H 524** recognizing the process and collaboration that this bill went through to form the bill that is in front of the Committee. The bill went through a process of editing, thanks to Chairman Rice and Representative Andrus, involving a group of animal agriculture representatives who made needed clarifications, including a new definition for torture. The insertion of the psychological evaluation in both sections of the bill addresses the concerns of the groups that want to protect companion animals and strengthens the original language of the statute for animal agriculture. IDA believes this is an important bill for both agriculture and for advocates of companion animals.

Russ Hendricks, representing Idaho Farm Bureau Federation (IFBF), spoke in opposition to **H 524** for specific reasons. Idaho Farm Bureau Policy Number 17 states in part "IFBF opposes any animal care legislation that would impose a stricter penalty than the 2012 law"; therefore IFBF opposes **H 524** because it seeks to impose stricter penalties that currently exist in regard to the care of animals. IFBF does appreciate the efforts by the sponsors and recognizes that there are several aspects of the bill that will help to ensure there is a clear distinction between production and companion animals. However, based upon IFBF's experience, their members are concerned that the additional penalties in the bill will not be satisfactory to some groups.

This bill will be one more step in the never-ending quest by some out-of-state interests to keep pushing the envelope on animal care a little further each year. It is precisely the reason, a few years ago, IFBF's members adopted Policy Number 17 statement. The policy was written after a bill passed that provided a felony penalty; IFBF members determined they would oppose **H 524**. IFBF members believe that no matter what laws or penalties are implemented, there will still be some individuals who will act in abhorrent and deviant ways. There are extremely strict laws that prohibit horrible acts against humans and carry severe penalties, yet these acts continue to occur. They do appreciate the requirement in the bill for a psychological evaluation for those who are convicted under the proposed statute. Anyone who is convicted and is mentally disturbed needs to be diagnosed and receive treatment rather than being incarcerated. In conclusion, IFBF's opposition is not toward the sponsors or their intentions, they oppose the pattern of certain others who insist on revisiting these issues each year or two and having the same discussion over again. IFBF believes the penalties currently in law are sufficient to deter those who are rational human beings, while no penalty will ever be enough to deter those who are mentally unstable.

Senator Harris stated that he appreciated the view of IFBF. Do you feel the changes in this bill defining torture and companion animals are better than the current law to protect agriculture? **Mr. Hendricks** answered IFBF agrees that there are some positive concepts in the bill. IFBF appreciates the requirement for a psychological evaluation and the clarification of the definitions of companion and production animals. IFBF's opposition is to the increased penalties that are in the bill.

Senator Patrick said that he supported the bill because individuals who do abuse animals are mentally ill and this is a way to get at the root of the problem.

Vice Chairman Bayer said IFBF's current policy does not discern between production and companion animals. **Mr. Hendricks** responded in the affirmative.

Wyatt Prescott, Executive Vice President of the Idaho Cattle Association (ICA), President of Food Producers of Idaho (FPI) and cattle owner, spoke in support of **H 524**. A cattle producer is in that occupation out of a love and passion for caring for livestock. Everyday their organization's job is to provide the highest level of care for these animals. Their rations are balanced by PhD nutritionists, and they monitor livestock health meticulously along with giving the highest standard of care. Unfortunately, there are groups in society that seek to put them out of business. They will not rest until they abolish all of animal agriculture. For that reason the ICA stands guard watching over policies such as **H 524** to make sure that these groups do not insert language that could jeopardize their common production practices that enable ICA to put food on the consumer's plate. **H 524** simply provides a nexus to prosecute animal cruelty offenders of extremely heinous acts of cruelty in the way of torture. **H 524** strengthens the position for production agriculture. Idaho's livestock industry wants to take a stand against true offenders of animal cruelty.

FPI presented this bill to their animal issues committee, which comprises the dairy, beef and other livestock segments. The committee waded through the terms and language of the proposed legislation and ultimately came to the consensus of the present legislation. FPI supports **H 524**.

Senator Harris asked if FPI sees this bill as a protection from groups wanting more restrictions on production animals. **Mr. Prescott** answered that these groups are always going to want more. The goal of some of these groups is to abolish all animal agriculture. This particular bill actually strengthens their position because the definition for companion animals is narrowed and they have taken out terms that could be arbitrarily applied to production practices. This legislation puts their industry in a more defensible position.

Chairman Rice concluded that he understood IFBF's position, which reminds the Legislature that legislation can have both a beneficial and detrimental effect in the future. This is why it is so important to be careful in drafting this type of legislation. In this legislation we seek to address the root causes that endanger both companion animals and citizens. There is other legislation that deals with individuals injuring production animals. If you abuse a production animal you get lower quality beef and less milk; hence the owner would not stay in business unless they take the best care of these production animals.

Vice Chairman Bayer commented that he would like to recognize Chairman Rice and all who have worked so hard on this measure. He indicated that the collaboration in this legislation was to be congratulated.

MOTION: **Senator Souza** moved to send **H 524** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Ward-Engelking** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, **Vice Chairman Bayer** adjourned the meeting at 8:39 a.m.

Senator Rice
Chair

Carol Deis
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #2
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M.
Room WW53
Thursday, March 10, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
Minute Approval:	Approve Minutes of February 25, 2016	Senators Souza and Lee
<u>H 525</u>	Relating to Dangerous and At-Risk Dogs	Senator Rice
<u>HCR 49</u>	Rejecting Certain Rules of the Idaho Wheat Commission	Representative Batt
<u>H 531</u>	Relating to Agricultural Facilities and Operations Unlawful to Damage, Poison or Infect the Crops, Livestock, or Products	Representative Batt
<u>H 382</u>	Relating to Veterinarians	Jodie Ellis, Executive Director
Page Graduation	Farewell to Committee Page Tabitha Manor	Senator Rice

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Rice
Vice Chairman Bayer
Sen Patrick
Sen Souza
Sen Lee

Sen Den Hartog
Sen Harris
Sen Ward-Engelking
Sen Burgoyne

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Carol Deis
Room: WW31
Phone: 332-1330
email: sagri@senate.idaho.gov

MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, March 10, 2016

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rice, Vice Chairman Bayer, Senators Patrick, Souza, Lee, Den Hartog, Harris, Ward-Engelking and Burgoyne

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Rice** called the meeting of the Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee to order at 8:02 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Senator Lee** moved to approve the Minutes of February 25, 2016. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Rice passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Bayer.

H 525 **Relating to Dangerous and At-Risk Dogs.** **Senator Rice** stated this bill is a rewrite of the vicious dog statute. The old legislation said any dog that is not physically provoked and physically attacks, wounds, bites or otherwise injures any person who is not trespassing is vicious. It is unlawful to harbor a vicious dog outside of a secure enclosure, and if the dog is not in the enclosure the owner is guilty of a misdemeanor. The dog is deemed vicious the first time it bites someone.

The proposed legislation updates sections of Title 25, Chapter 28, Idaho Code, relating to dogs that injure humans. It will be renamed Idaho Dangerous and At-Risk Dogs Act. A dangerous dog means any dog that without justified provocation inflicts serious injury to a person or has been previously found to be at-risk and thereafter bites or physically attacks a person without justified provocation. Page 3, line 9, lists circumstances under which a dog cannot be declared dangerous or at-risk. There are instances where dogs do bite people. This bill allows the person who was injured, their parents or law enforcement to bring an action to have the dog declared dangerous or at-risk. Under these circumstances the court has a range of options, which include putting the dog down and setting restrictions on the keeping of the dog. It allows the court to take a look at the incident and make a decision for what needs to be done with the dog, even without a charge being brought against the owner of the dog. The legislation also spells out transfer of ownership of a dog designated as a dangerous or at-risk dog. The current owner shall notify the new owner of any order issued by a court pursuant to the provisions of this act and provide a copy of such orders.

The bill does not preclude an individual who adopts an at-risk dog to take remedial measures, to train and work to rehabilitate the dog. If the dog is no longer dangerous then the dog would not remain classified as a dangerous dog. If they comply with all of the provisions of the order and the dog demonstrates no aggressive or dangerous behavior and no incidents occur for a period of three years, then the dog will no longer be classified as at-risk. However, paragraph 10, page 4, makes it clear that Idaho is not creating a "free first bite rule". Paragraph 10, line 46, provides that if a dog physically attacks, wounds, bites or otherwise

injures a person who is not trespassing when the dog is not physically provoked or otherwise justified pursuant to that list of justifications, in another section of code, the owner or any person who has accepted responsibility as the possessor of the dog is open to civil liability caused by the dog. On line 2, page 5, that a prior determination that a dog is dangerous or at-risk or subject to any court order shall not be a prerequisite to civil liability for injuries caused by the dog. This is important for a property owner who might have a stray dog that is on their property; the owner of the property is not liable for what the dog may do.

Senator Lee questioned the penalty language on page 5, Section 5, (2), which states a person guilty of a second violation. Would that be a second violation of the same animal or is that a second violation of having another at-risk dog? **Senator Rice** answered that would be a second violation of the act. On page 4, line 30 to 32, any person who fails to comply with the sanctions, restrictions or requirements imposed by the court pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be subject. This would be an individual that within five years violates the court-ordered precautions they are to take with the dog.

Senator Ward-Engelking asked does this legislation only deal with a dog biting a person? Does it include a dog attacking another dog or cat? **Senator Rice** replied that many of the local ordinances deal with a dog that kills someone's chickens or pets or damages property. This particular statute deals with dogs that attack people.

Senator Souza asked about the fines on page 5. She understood that the standard code for a misdemeanor is up to six months in jail and/or a fine of up to \$1,000.

Senator Rice explained that there is more than one category of misdemeanor. If you state in a code that something is a misdemeanor and there are no specifics included, then the penalty is up to six months in jail and/or a fine of up to \$1,000. The specific fines and provisions are included in this legislation. **Senator Souza** stated she believed \$5,000 is a large amount for a first fine. **Senator Rice** answered that misdemeanors are different than infractions and with a misdemeanor you give a fine range. This gives the court discretion to address how grievous the violation of the order.

Senator Patrick gave an example: I have my farm dog in the back of my truck and someone comes up and tries to pet the dog and the dog bites. Would my dog be deemed an at-risk dog? **Senator Rice** answered this type of scenario is not specifically covered in this legislation. In the current statute, the dog would be deemed a vicious dog and would subject the farmer to a misdemeanor the first time it took place. The proposed legislation would not expose the farmer to having a misdemeanor criminal charge the first time it happened. The farmer would only be subject to that misdemeanor if there was a declaration by the court with an order and then the farmer violated the order. The farmer would still have civil liability before or after this act.

Senator Burgoyne asked about the language on page 1, lines 38 to 40, in the stricken language states "it shall be unlawful for the owner or for the owner of premises on which a vicious dog is present to harbor a vicious dog outside a secure enclosure." As he understands the subsection, it is not necessary that they go to court first to get an adjudication that the dog is vicious then get an order for an enclosure. The proposed bill provides that after adjudication, the court may order that the dog be placed in an enclosure.

Senator Rice said that is correct. What must be understood about the existing language that has been stricken is that it doesn't matter whether an owner has any way to know that the dog might be vicious. What the current statutes stipulate is if the dog bites someone it is vicious and the owner had a duty before they even knew to have it in a secure enclosure at all times. The old statute does not work because if the dog is at-risk or dangerous, it lets the victim's parents or the prosecutor bring an action against the dog to get the incident in front of the court and acquire a specific order, including other incidents, they can put the dog down before it attacks again.

Galan Merrill, grandfather of the victim of the dog injuries, spoke in support of the **H 525**. Their granddaughter had been mauled by a dog. After the injuries were treated the parents found that there was no recourse to deal with the dog and owner or procedures to ensure that the dog did not injure someone else.

Jeff Rosenthal, veterinarian, CEO of the Idaho Humane Society (IHS), spoke in support of the passage of **H 525** saying that IHS provides enforcement of the state vicious dog statute as it currently exists, as well as the varied dangerous dog ordinances throughout Ada County. Because of the large population in IHS's jurisdiction, the officers handle more dangerous dog situations and attacks than any other agency in the State. IHS believes that **H 525** will improve the existing statute. Senator Rice has outlined some of the flaws in the current statute. **Mr. Rosenthal** summarized their enforcement issues with the current statute. The statute on one hand is strict: if the court finds any dog of any size when not provoked physically is responsible for any type of attack or injury of any severity it must order the dog forever confined to a locked enclosure and restrained by a chain for the rest its life. The statute is quite permissive in the case of any dog that is vicious may inflict a very severe unprovoked injury even resulting in the death of a person and no matter how irresponsible and negligent an owner is shown to be the court has no ability to order the destruction of a dog; such order can be made only upon the second mauling or killing of a person. The purpose of a dangerous dog statute is to mitigate the risk to the public from dogs that truly prove unacceptable risk of injury to people. IHS appreciates that the language in the new statute would provide the court with sufficient discretion to provide the right practical methods to prevent future injuries without unnecessarily overburdening every single dog owner that has conflict under the law with stringent control measures that are out of proportion to the action of the dog. The specific measures listed in subsection 4 and 5 are nothing more than what most owners are already providing for their dogs without a court order. In IHS's experience, these measures usually are enough to prevent injuries and incidents. Under this legislation there is an opportunity for a court to provide more stringent and focused recommendations that can be deliberated in lieu of destroying a dog.

As an agency with limited resources, the monitoring and recordkeeping of the offending dog and owner is provided for but it is not overly cumbersome for IHS. Also, providing for IHS to use discretion in what happens in the immediate period after an incident will decrease IHS's and owners' expenses.

Nancy Merrill, grandmother of the dog-injury victim, stated when they began the process of dealing with the dog injuries, they looked into available recourse. One of the first things they wanted to ensure is that this would not happen again. The family was frustrated with the county's lack of response and unwillingness to have the dog evaluated or to secure the dog. They looked at Idaho's law and found it very inconsistent. They decided to meet with their District Representative and IHS to improve the legislation in order to best protect the owners, dogs and people. As a minimum the legislation should have consistency and certainty across the board for Idaho. The proposed legislation protects the dogs that are doing their jobs but gives the court and victims some opportunities to declare a dog at-risk or dangerous. The

processes defined in the bill are clear to the dog owners, victims, cities and counties in Idaho. She urged support of **H 525**.

Kathy Wilkans, grandmother of the dog injury victim, spoke in support of **H 525** stating it is the first duty of any community to stand between the innocent and danger. When citizens fail to do that, it becomes the obligation of the community to pass legislation to protect the public. This law is about changing the behavior of people before this type of incident takes place. Her granddaughter's attack might have been prevented if this legislation had been in place because the owner would have kept the dog contained in its cage instead of letting it out while there were children on the property. The second reported incident of this dog resulted in the shooting of the dog in order to release its victim. This second incident might not have occurred if the proposed legislation was in place. When individual citizens fail to do their duty to protect others from danger that is when the public relies upon the law, law enforcement and the courts to implement consequences that change dangerous behavior.

Chelsea Merrill, mother of the dog injury victim, spoke in support of **H 525** explaining that her daughter was the first reported attack. After three weeks the family contacted the owner and the response from the owner was that the dog was not a mean dog and it did not need to be put down. A couple of weeks later the dog attacked the owner's son and the dog was shot. In dealing with this at-risk animal their family found there were no definitions or consequences in legislation to guide next steps for this at-risk dog. Attachment 1 contains a petition of 470 signatures of individuals who have read the bill and are in support of **H 525** passage.

Luke Merrill spoke in support of **H 525** stating this bill gives an opportunity to other victims that their family wasn't afforded.

Ralph Jordan spoke in support of **H 525**. He said dog bites might be more common than we think. The Journal of the American Medical Association reported a study of the incidents of treated dog bites, which are the second leading cause for emergency rooms visits. Dog bites cost money. There are 3,500 dog bite cases per year in Idaho, resulting in 86 hospital stays costing \$1.5 million per year.

Daniel Luker, Idaho Trial Lawyers Association (ITLA), spoke in support **H 525** as it is presently constituted. ITLA's initial concern about the proposed bill is that the standard for civil liability and remedy that existed in the current statute remain intact if under the new legislation. The amendment that passed by the House has cleared up this issue. The legislation provides clarity both for the court and individuals who are bringing claims.

Lisa Parks of Ada County spoke in support of **H 525** stating that as a child she was attacked by a neighborhood dog that had come into their backyard; they found that the dog had attacked others and was eventually put down. This bill will protect her children in ways that she was not protected.

Chairman Rice said this bill maintains the current negligence standard, it makes clear that there are certain defenses that are recognized, it provides that if there is another circumstance that court feels is adequate justification the court has defined procedures. This provides avenues to address at-risk dogs that did not exist in the present legislation. The sponsors intentionally wrote it so the State would retain the current standard for civil liability.

MOTION: **Senator Den Hartog** moved to send **H 525** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Burgoyne** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Vice Chairman Bayer passed the gavel to Chairman Rice.

HCR 49

Rejecting Certain Rules of the Idaho Wheat Commission. Representative Batt said **HCR 49** reflects the will of the House Agriculture Committee in the rejection of a portion of the Wheat Commission rule. This concurrent resolution rejects section 301, subsections 01, 02 and 03, concerning the elevator operator reports. The elevator operators were unaware of the rule; no negotiated rulemaking was done.

Senator Burgoyne asked what were the elevator operators' concerns about the rule change. **Representative Batt** answered the elevator operators said they had not been informed of the rule change. The rule change said elevator operators must submit to the Wheat Commission annually a report listing the name and contact information for growers who delivered to their elevators. The elevator operators did not want to divulge the growers' names and contact information. **Senator Burgoyne** stated that he expected to see negotiated rulemaking unless there is a very good reason not to.

MOTION:

Senator Burgoyne moved to send **HCR 49** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Vice Chairman Bayer** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

H 531

Relating to Agricultural Facilities and Operations Unlawful to Damage, Poison or infect the Crops, Livestock or Products. Representative Batt stated this bill addresses the exploitation of agriculture's vulnerability to breeches of biosecurity. This bill will makes it unlawful to knowingly commit the acts of attempting to release and spread or aiding, abetting or conspiring to release or spread contagious, communicable and infectious disease or poison with the intent to damage, poison or infect crops, livestock or agricultural facilities.

MOTION:

Senator Ward-Engelking moved to send **H 531** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Patrick** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

H 382

Relating to Veterinarians. Jodie Ellis, Executive Director, Board of Veterinary Medicine, said BOVM requested a change to Idaho Code § 54-2118 (1) (b), which authorizes the BOVM to extend a non-disciplinary option (NDO) to veterinarians and certified technicians who violate continuing education and recordkeeping requirements. Because of BOVM's positive experiences with using NDOs, the BOVM wishes to extend its possible use to other violations of the Veterinarian Practice Act. On March 1 the Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee asked that the BOVM to work with Senator Burgoyne in amending the original proposed legislation to address some concerns that came up during the original presentation. The amendments that were agreed upon improved the legislation and **Ms. Ellis** discussed those changes: 1. Clarifying what circumstance the BOVM would not consider the use of NDOs, Section 54-2118, (1) (b) (v), the act or omission committed by the person that either: 9a) caused significant harm to an animal, (b) created a substantial risk likely to cause significant harm to an animal; or (c) involved fraud or deception. 2. Consider having the entire BOVM participate in the decision as to whether the NDO would be used in each case. After much discussion with BOVM it was decided that this could lead to problems. Example: If after reviewing a case BOVM decided that the NDO was inappropriate and referred for formal discipline and potential evidentiary hearing, this could lead to an allegation that the BOVM had become biased or otherwise unable to impartially and fairly decide the case. In Section 54-2118, (1) (b), BOVM instead proposed that the most senior experienced member of the BOVM, liaison officer, collaborate with and gain the approval of the second most experienced member of BOVM, board president, when deciding if the NDO is appropriate. 3) In Section 54-2118, (1) (b) (i), a person will not be eligible for alternative to discipline if that person has been subjected to an alternative to discipline within the last five years. Section 54-2118,

(1) (b) (v), BOVM removed the term "reasonable paralegal and attorney fees" and replaced it with "cost associated with the file."

MOTION: **Senator Lee** moved that **H 382** be referred to the 14th Order for amendment. **Senator Burgoyne** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PAGE GRADUATION: **Farewell to Committee Page Tabitha Manor.** **Senator Rice** asked Tabitha Manor to tell the Committee about her experience as a page for the Committee and share her plans for the future.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, **Chairman Rice** adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Senator Rice
Chair

Carol Deis
Secretary

SUPPORT FOR HO525

“Dangerous and At Risk Dogs”

- Personal Testimony
- Petition Comments
- Petition Signatures





Senate Agricultural Committee

To the members of the committee,

I support bill #525. This summer, my 6 year old daughter was the victim of an unprovoked, brutal dog attack. The dog pinned her to the ground and bit her multiple times in a matter of seconds (in the presence of the dog's master). As you can see by these photos, this was far more than a warning nip or a bite. This was a vicious attack and I have no doubt that dog would have killed her if given the opportunity to continue. She suffered extreme facial damage and received hundreds and hundreds of stitches in her face along with weeks of other treatments to encourage the skin to heal. It was the first reported attack by this dog, so there were no consequences for the dog or the owner, but a lifetime of consequences for my daughter. As any parent would, we exhausted every avenue possible in hopes of getting the dog destroyed to prevent this from happening to anyone else. We ran into dead ends everywhere we turned. Within 3 weeks, the dog attacked another person and had to be shot and killed to save the victim's life. The first attack was a horrible accident, but I feel very strongly that the second attack was a choice and should absolutely have been prevented.

As a parent, one of the fundamental things I try to teach my children is that every action has a consequence, as it should. In this situation, that has not been the case. We worked with animal control and Nampa city and these dog owners and this vicious animal carried on with life with zero consequence. I feel this is a law we can all get behind to make pet owners far more conscientious about their responsibilities. I feel there should be clear and concise definitions and consequences in place for times when the owners fail to take the responsible steps. I feel this bill is very fair to animal lovers and protects the public and would like to express my support in behalf of this legislation.

Chelsea Merrill

Senate Agricultural Committee

To the members of the committee,

I support HB525. My daughter was the victim of an unprovoked attack last summer. This bill is greatly needed to establish a base line on how to handle dog attack cases for the state of Idaho. Her attack took place in the city of Nampa. Nampa is supposed to have a strong "Dangerous Dog Law". However as I tried to pursue getting the dog destroyed or labeled "Vicious" as the law called for, I receive no support. I was told by the Police, Animal Control, and the City Prosecutor that there was nothing they could do.

We all lived with the fear that this could happen to someone else because this dog was not dealt with. Unfortunately our fears were realized when the dog attacked a second person a few weeks later and had to be shot to save the second victim.

I like that this bill establishes a minimum standard and allows city's and counties to adopt stricter laws should they choose to do so. Please vote in favor of HB525 and do all that you can to support passage of this legislation.

Thank you,
Luke Merrill
208-573-5793

Idaho Dangerous Dog Act

Recipient: Idaho State House and Idaho State Senate

Letter: Greetings,

Support Idaho Dangerous Dog Act

Comments

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Tucker Wilkins	Star, ID	2016-02-20	Dangerous dogs are the direct result of negligent owners. It takes a single attack lasting mere seconds to negatively change a life forever.
Kurt Wilkins	Nampa, ID	2016-02-20	My granddaughter Bentlee was viciously attacked by a Rotweiler and now has years of plastic surgery to remove her facial scars
Tessa Wilkins	Nampa, ID	2016-02-20	My little niece was attacked and it could've been prevented.
Mary Carr	Garden City, ID	2016-02-20	Kthese dogs are dangerous
Robert Hutchings	Boise, ID	2016-02-20	Dangerous animals and dangerous people all need to be removed from society without question!
Katherine Wilkins	Nampa, ID	2016-02-20	I feel strongly about this law. I feel it is very fairly written to protect the public and also dog owners.
Ashlee Wilkins	Nampa, ID	2016-02-20	An unprovoked dog attack shouldn't have to take two incidents to qualify for action. It shouldn't happen the first time Why should it be allowed to happen a second?
Brock Ross	Boise, ID	2016-02-20	Presently, the law requires TWO incidents of unprovoked attack from a dog to qualify for legal repercussions. This is unbelievable. A child can be viciously maimed by a dog, and nothing will be done about it unless it happens a second time. This needs to be changed.
Jeri Lynn Kjerengtroen	Laramie, WY	2016-02-20	I absolutely believe in this act. I've seen the affects of vicious dog attacks first hand. There have to be more serious consequences when these incidents occur.
Jane Johnstone	Blackfoot, ID	2016-02-20	I believe in this.
Connie Miller	Meridian, ID	2016-02-20	I support protection from known vicious dogs. The challenge is identifying potential risk in a particular dog before the first vicious attack. I have been attacked twice, once when a German Shephard bit part of my ear off and another bit my leg. I also know a couple who were viciously attacked by their Doberman. All were loving family dogs. I support some type of additional legislation, especially after a single attack.
Lynette Parker	Nampa, ID	2016-02-20	Dangerous dogs have NO PLACE in Idaho. Please protect our sweet children!
Nate Perkes	Star, ID	2016-02-20	An important and fair legislation to be passed. It's crazy that a dog can brutally attack a child, but if it's the first time, nothing can be done about it.
Monica Blackwood	Star, ID	2016-02-20	Because I believe in this bill!
Kassie Cook	Meridian, ID	2016-02-20	I agree!!!
melody ross	Star, ID	2016-02-20	This bill is long past due.
melody ross	Star, ID	2016-02-20	This bill is long past due.
Sami Melton	Boise, ID	2016-02-20	there is a need to tend to dogs that have attacked kids, when owners are not responsible enough to take care of the situation on their own.
Darin Sorensen	Star, ID	2016-02-20	I do enjoy dogs as pets but I have learned through experience that a single unprovoked attack on a human will most definitely repeat in dog behavior. We need better laws for vicious dogs and enforcement against careless owners!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Gabriela Walker	Meridian, ID	2016-02-20	I believe responsible ownership is a must and many aren't qualified to properly handling the aggressive animals they currently have under their care so it's only a matter of time til another unwarranted dog attack does happen, no parent, child, or anyone for that matter should ever have to experience something this terrifying and devastating.
Kathie Hilliard	Boise, ID	2016-02-20	Owners must be held responsible for all of the actions of their dogs. Dogs do what is natural for them. Owners carry the burden of training their animal, and making sure that their animal is leashed and under their control at all times.
Heather Lyons	Boise, ID	2016-02-20	I know Chelsea Merrill. What her daughter suffered is tragic.
Selena Hodges	Boise, ID	2016-02-20	I am a dog lover myself, but never would have tolerated any signs of aggression. My kids and the kids around me are too precious.
Lynette Parker	Nampa, ID	2016-02-20	A vicious dog is just that!!! It should not require a second attack for any repercussions! This change just might save the life of someone you love!
Dana Paskett	Eagle, ID	2016-02-20	I have a friend who's son was attacked by a dog a few years ago in our neighborhood. It was unprovoked and our neighborhood was full of small children. The owner did not have to put the dog down and promised to move it to another location. A month later, we discover that she lied. This is not right. Had my son not tried to distract the dog as it was biting the head of the little boy while another child got my husband, that little boy could have been killed. Yet, there were no consequences for what happened. That is wrong!
Brigite Crump	American Falls, ID	2016-02-20	I'm signing because a dog verses a human is not worth the risk and this is wrong to allow something like this to continue. I am a mother with small children and have always worries about this issue. Please Listen and do something to help change the laws.
Andria Johnson	Eagle, ID	2016-02-20	I am an animal lovers but when an animal is malicious, there's no room for second chances.
Laura Bradshaw	Star, ID	2016-02-20	Anytime a dog bites a human that bad needs to be put down. Terrible tragedy!!
Janet Pollock	Star, ID	2016-02-20	I'm signing because dogs that are dangerous and loose are a serious threat to all of us. I would like to run and bike with my children without fear of an unprovoked attack.
Shawna Greaves	Nampa, ID	2016-02-20	Once a dog bites it can never be trusted again!
Mollee Bird	Nampa, ID	2016-02-20	I am signing for Bentley! Something should have been done after her horrific accident!
Angela Fish	Eagle, ID	2016-02-20	No child should have to endure this act of violence from a dog.....especially after the dog has done it before. Ridiculous
Julie Arevalo	Meridian, ID	2016-02-20	2 of my 4 children have been bit by dogs.
Namcy Merrill	Eagle, ID	2016-02-20	This is my beautiful little Granddaughter whose life was changed dramatically when she was attacked by a Rotweiler last summer. This Change in the dangerous dog law will help other families to be better protected when dogs savagely attack.
Jolene Hurst	Rigby, ID	2016-02-20	I have seen this happen way to many times and it destroys people and their lives....

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Deb Winward	Star, ID	2016-02-20	I know multiple victims of dog bites and the dogs have not been put down because this was the dogs first "incident". I currently have a dog living across the street who has bitten a person, not on the dog owners property. I have grand children and I live in horror that this dog will be outside when the children go out to play. Because of the dogs aggressive act, my freedom is taken away. If a court of law were to look at the circumstances of many of these unprovoked bites, it would be easy to assess which had potential for future bites, even if they had bitten just one person.
Rachel Budge	Star, ID	2016-02-20	Dogs that bite humans, especially kids I think no longer have the ability to control themselves ... As sad as it is, no little girl should have to grow up scarred for life.
Michelle Florence	Star, ID	2016-02-20	Dangerous dogs bite and scar childrens' bodies and lives
Holly Ranstrom	Middleton, ID	2016-02-20	My friends little girl was severely injured by a dog and should have been put down! I can't believe it took another extreme attack by the dog that resulted in the dog being shot to get it off the victim! The owners should have euthanized the dog after the first one. This bill will help see that the courts will enforce it if this ever happens again to a helpless child. I am an animal lover but human lives are much more important.
Anna Hales	Star, ID	2016-02-20	Our 7 year old got bit by a dog last year and he has scarred him for life. The dog was unprovoked and went right for him.
Jake Williams	North Sioux City, SD	2016-02-20	Because I can
Kara Walker	Nampa, ID	2016-02-20	I've been a victim myself!
Jasmin Tricic	Boise, ID	2016-02-20	My kid safety
Chantelle Payne	Boise, ID	2016-02-20	I want to feel that my kids and myself are protected from dangerous animals.
Heather Maughan	London, UT	2016-02-20	We need to protect our children from people who will not train their pets to behave.
Patricia Risinger	Palmdale, CA	2016-02-20	Too many people have been bitten by dogs. And it's not the dogs fault it's the owners fault.
Mary Maxine McCombs	Star, ID	2016-02-20	Picture of this little girl attached is the daughter of friend. It was horrific and should not happen to anyone else.
Carolyn Glover	Star, ID	2016-02-20	One attack is enough!
Kelsey McCracken	Great Falls, MT	2016-02-20	I too have been attacked by a dog while out jogging. It was completely unprovoked. He came running at me from across a field and attacked me in the road. I was shocked when nothing happened to the dog after I had been to the hospital and reported it. It happened on a road where there are many children, often walking to school.
Kara Ciffin	Star, ID	2016-02-20	I know 2 children who have been bitten by dogs that were unprovoked. I feel animals that attack humans need to be eliminated.
Nancy Aydelotte	Caldwell, ID	2016-02-20	One attack without provocation is one too many.
Kristi Cantrill	Meridian, ID	2016-02-20	Our son has had 2 separate incidents with 2 very dangerous dogs. Nothing was done.
Natalie Christensen	Meridian, ID	2016-02-20	I personally know 4 young girls who have unprovoked been viciously attacked by dogs, all on their heads and faces, there MUST be something done to offer more protection, especially against repeat offenses!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Angie Rockwood	Idaho Falls, ID	2016-02-21	My kids were near a dog fight and it scared me to death. I realized then what could have happened if I didn't get them out. I don't think it's right when people put their pets ahead of others and their lives. I feel for this girl and other stories out there. My heart aches. She will have a life time to recover and will have to live with the effects.
Brian McCauley	Eagle, ID	2016-02-21	It just makes sense
Arlene McCauley	Eagle, ID	2016-02-21	Owners need to be responsible for their dogs behaviors in unprovoked attacks.
Tiffany Howard	Meridian, ID	2016-02-21	It makes sense to protect our families and our dogs.
Leah Sarnowski	Weston, MI	2016-02-21	I personally have been attacked by a family dog, it scars you for life. The dog was very friendly loved playing with us kids and other animals but once it attacks someone or something it shouldnot be allowed even the slightest chance to do it again. We immediately euthanasia the dog that attacked me. I strongly believe that should be the way with every dog that attacks period.
Crissy Williams	Middleton, ID	2016-02-21	Dogs that attack human being should be put down!
Kim Allen	Boise, ID	2016-02-21	If a dog is a threat to humans it shouldn't be a pet. There are plenty of dogs on the planet to have brutal dogs around young kids
Korbin Voss	Eagle, ID	2016-02-21	I have daughters who deserve to feel safe around dogs.
Krista Hegstrom	Caldwell, ID	2016-02-21	I was bitten by a do when I was a child and that dog was put down - very sad but necessary!
Angela Hill	Idaho Falls, ID	2016-02-21	I am a huge dog lover but there needs to be safety and accountability for all parties involved. I believe this is one of the better bills that actually help protect the animals and doesn't automatically have them put down under any circumstances.
Aryn Sampson	Meridian, ID	2016-02-21	Change is over due.
Chelsea Hansen	Kuna, ID	2016-02-21	My 3 year old son too was bitten by an aggressive dog. Has hand ha permanent damage. The dog owners did nothing!!!
Amanda Hood	Nampa, ID	2016-02-21	I have a son that was attacked and bitten by a dog. It had bitten two other people before him.
Scott Snelders	Star, ID	2016-02-21	I run a lot and have had too many dogs chase me. Not a fan.
Patricia Gibbens	Boise, ID	2016-02-21	I was bit in the face as a child... Similar injuries to those shared on this page. That dog was put down right away, it was its first attack... There shouldn't ever be the opportunity for a second, ever.
Keith McCauley	Eagle, ID	2016-02-21	Owners need to be responsible for their pets.
Karen Bowlden	Boise, ID	2016-02-21	I was attacked as a child and was left with being terrified if a dog is near.
Debbie Siddoway	Boise, ID	2016-02-21	Attack type dos should not attack, maim, maul or kill innocent victims unprovoked and have rights that the victims obviously did not have... Let alone 2 chances for it to happen again to someone else. They say that once an animal has killed, it develops a taste for killing again. Change this law and stop the madness!
Taylor Young	Star, ID	2016-02-21	If the dog bites someone for no reason, it should be put down. Not to be trusted
Jacquelyn Lawson	Pocatello, ID	2016-02-21	My sister was bit by a dog last summer.
David Smith	Star, ID	2016-02-21	This needs to change. There should never be a second chance for these dogs. I also know this little girl and I know what she and her family have endured. Please pass this bill.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Julia Christopherson	Meridian, ID	2016-02-21	I know this family, I have seen the pain it has caused. If this bill can save a child, anyone, we need our to pass. My brother was attacked when he was three..we need action now!!! That was forty years ago.
Donna Williams	Garden City, ID	2016-02-21	My daughter was attacked by a boxer when she was 6 yrs old. She was bitten multiple times and had to have stitches to her neck, back and legs. I tried in vain to get the dog destroyed but the law protected the owner and dog. This did not happen in Idaho but I feel this family's pain
Aubrie Hernandez	Albuquerque, NM	2016-02-21	I was bit by a Great Dane on my left side while riding my bike down MY street. In BOISE. The dog was in the front yard with owner, dog jumped the fence and came after me. I did not provoke the dog in anyway, just riding my bike. He chased me down ripped me off of my bike and bit me multiple times. He took a chunk of skin off my side and I still have the scars. I love dogs as I have one but, dogs who are viscous should be put down. Hands Down
Amanda Peterson	Boise, ID	2016-02-21	I was but by a dog as a child
Brian Stayner	Middleton, ID	2016-02-21	I support this 100%. I love dogs but I love people more and if a dog annoy tell the difference between a real threat and an innocent person they need to be dealt with.
Derek Call	Tampa, FL	2016-02-21	I've seen dangerous dogs snap with no warning at all. Not fun!
Amy Jensen	Lehi, UT	2016-02-21	I grew up in Idaho & have many loved ones & family there.
Michelle Smidt	Meridian, ID	2016-02-21	I've known friends and family members who were doing nothing to provoke a dog when they were attacked. I have no sympathy for dogs who put human lives in danger. This needs to be controlled. It's so sad roe only when it happens to a beautiful young child.
jem oliver	Fareham, United Kingdom	2016-02-21	In the UK a dog will get put down for such attack
Mikaela Johnson	Meridian, ID	2016-02-21	This dog should've been put down after the first attack!! Because of him, my sweet little cousin has a long road to full recovery.
Jerry Bruneel	Star, ID	2016-02-21	I know this is a real problem. As a veterinarian i have seen alot of innocent animals punished because of ignorant people and people unwilling to take responsibility for there carelessness with potentially dangerous animals and i see that it needs to be addressed.
Sean Merrill	Emmett, ID	2016-02-22	I have seen the tragic aftermath of a severe dangerous dog bite where the dog and its owners walked away without any repricoussion. If the same damage was caused by a human there would be jail time and they would be liable for damages.
Brian Hymas	Eagle, ID	2016-02-22	My good friend's daughter was affected by a dog attack.
Lane Ranstrom	Middleton, ID	2016-02-22	No two families should have to go through this. Let alone one.
Jennie Brown	Ogden, UT	2016-02-22	This dog's first victim is the daughter of dear friends. Idaho laws need to be updated to better protect all involved.
Cal Gothberg	Eagle, ID	2016-02-22	I've personally seem the damage a dangerous dog can do to s small defenseless child.
Shelly Draper	Kuna, ID	2016-02-22	If this had been my dog, and I love my dogs, I would have voluntarily put it down. We can not take the life of a dog over the life or maiming of a child. It needs to be looked at very seriously!
Christa Bates	Star, ID	2016-02-22	Our family has talked about this for years. I hope this passes.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Talia merrill	Reno, NV	2016-02-22	My sweet little cousin was viciously attacked by a Rottweiler and she will suffer the scars of this attack for the rest of her life. I believe this is a very important bill that needs to be passed so that other families dont have to go through the same thing!
Tracy Koyle	Twin Falls, ID	2016-02-22	Dogs that do this need put down. Just like humans that kill or dismember other humans.
Stephen Post	Middleton, ID	2016-02-22	If a dog has shown aggressive behavior that was unprovoked, then it should be put down. I don't like a law that keeps the dog alive while we wait for a second unprovoked attack.
Abbe POFELSKI	Meridian, ID	2016-02-22	I am signing because people get (ATTACK) dogs purposely for pets. Nobody is forcing them to take the dogs for pets. They are CHOOSING to take the dog and feed it and let it roam where it will. They are CHOOSING to endanger their neighbors and maybe even their own family members by the presence of the dog. The selection of breed is no accident either. People who choose dogs bred for fighting want to make a statement of some sort. You can bet your lives on that.
Deven Davis	Eagle, ID	2016-02-22	A common sense approach to an issue that many are passionate about.
zola June cheney	Boise, ID	2016-02-22	I am Bently's G Grandmother. I saw her imediately after she was attacked by a dog. She was a good 3 hours in surgery. 5 yrs old and a sweet granddaughter.
Erica Bird	Nampa, ID	2016-02-22	I have seen first hand what dogs are capable of. Our family dog was attacked by two pit Bulls who jumped our 6 ft. fence and pinned him in the kennel. I have no doubt if I hadn't been there they would have killed him and then gone after our other dog. Luckily it was early morning and our young children were inside. This was the third offense for these dogs who had attacked another dog and killed a cat.
Pam Pugmire	Star, ID	2016-02-22	The public should be protected from dangerous animals.
Gina Nilsson	Pocatello, ID	2016-02-22	If a dog has viciously hurt someone it needs to be put down. I am probably one of the biggest animal lovers in the world, but I understand that a violent animal must not be allowed a second time to hurt someone else.
Jill Baird	Star, ID	2016-02-22	There needs to be more responsibility in owning a dog, of any breed. There needs to be consequences for vicious animals.
Matt Fowler	Eagle, ID	2016-02-23	I actually moved from my old neighborhood with one motivator being an aggressive dog that freely roamed the neighborhood. Whenever I called animal control nothing was done. People who own dogs need to be more responsible and realize that even one episode will get their pet in trouble.
Todd Waltman	Middleton, ID	2016-02-23	My son was attacked by a dog when he was 2 years old. He received 175 stitches in his face one of the 3 dog bites nearly took out one of his eyes. The owner of the dog had the dog put down hours after the attack without my intervention. I believe if the owner had not have taken action himself, we would not have been able to do anything to stop the dog from attacking someone else, and putting someone else through that emotional, and physical pain that comes from being attacked. 14 years later, My son's physical scars from the dog attack are still very noticeable, and my son's emotional scars are still very apparent. We currently have two dogs that we love, but would not hesitate to have them put down if they were to attack or show vicious behavior. I believe this Act is very important. Thank you for the work you have put into this. This bill will not fix any of the emotional or physical pain we as a family suffered during this trial, but hopefully it will stop someone else from going through this experience. Thanks again!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Von Humphreys	Middleton, ID	2016-02-23	I think more latitude should be given judges with this issue, we need protection and remedy when these attacks occur.
Dina Lacer	Boise, ID	2016-02-23	If a dog bites 1 time. Put it down. It will bite again
Stephen Asay	Caldwell, ID	2016-02-23	My son and dog (Lab) were attacked by an unrestrained pit bull last year and I feel like there are certain breeds that are just not safe to have in close proximity neighborhoods and cities.

change.org

Idaho Dangerous Dog Act

Recipient: Idaho State House and Idaho State Senate

Letter: Greetings,

Support Idaho Dangerous Dog Act

Signatures

Name	Location	Date
Chelsea Merrill	, United States	2016-02-19
Tucker Wilkins	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Kurt Wilkins	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Kallie Maughan	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Tessa Wilkins	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Ashlee Wilkins	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Mary Carr	Garden City, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Robert Hutchings	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jennifer Rummmler	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Katherine Wilkins	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
trevor smith	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Brock Ross	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jeri Lynn Kjerengtroen	Laramie, WY, United States	2016-02-20
Jane Johnstone	Blackfoot, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Connie Miller	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jen Hargraves	Shelley, ID, United States	2016-02-20
melody ross	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jeff Maughan	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Brooke Baugher	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Lynette Parker	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Concerned Citizen	New City, NY, United States	2016-02-20
Margaret Wilson	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Kaila Myers	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Alison Johnson	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Nate Perkes	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Stephanie Christensen	Emmett, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Ashley Boren	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Melanie Coleman	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Heather Brackney	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Kearstin Willis	Emmett, ID, United States	2016-02-20

Name	Location	Date
Mark Bryant	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Andie Forrest	Mesa, AZ, United States	2016-02-20
Monica Blackwood	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jennifer Snow	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Brittanie Austin	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jason Brackney	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
HEATHER WHEELER	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Karley Wagstaff	San Diego, CA, United States	2016-02-20
Shantel McNealy	North Las Vegas, NV, United States	2016-02-20
Joy Hansel	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Celeste Eiden	Victor, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Kassie Cook	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Annie Scott	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Brandon Miner	Idaho Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jennifer Papich	Idaho Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Lauren Hosek	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Tina Albright	Caldwell, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Ashlee Perkes	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Crystal Hurst	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Megan Chandler	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Stephanie Smith	Preston, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Erin Ragsdale	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Merili Stokes	Preston, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Kelsei Pearce	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Brock Stokes	Preston, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Sami Melton	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Katie Wilstead	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Darin Sorensen	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Whitney Smith	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Alyssa Miller	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jamie Gorgen	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Gabriela Walker	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20

Name	Location	Date
Erin Case	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Kathie Hilliard	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Lerin Perry	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Abby Bell	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Mindy Vail	Declo, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Erin Smith	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Deedra Ensley	Wilder, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Angee Jensen	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
lindsay scott	Ewa Beach, HI, United States	2016-02-20
Heather Lyons	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Justin Denison	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Selena Hodges	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Melissa Taylor	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Amy English-Burt	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Tierney Lord	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Gary Albright	Caldwell, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Stefanie Messer	Idaho Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Becky Miller	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Dana Paskett	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Brooke Kirtley	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Olivia Sorenson	Port Orchard, WA, United States	2016-02-20
Julie Grenke	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Brigite Crump	American Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Moon Hee I	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Andria Johnson	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jennifer Ellsworth	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Laura Bradshaw	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jesse Wickel	Rupert, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Kristy Rogers	Emmett, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Kelly Anderson	American Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Alyson Likes	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Janet Pollock	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20

Name	Location	Date
Kelli Ryan	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Shawna Greaves	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Heather Booth	Garden City, ID, United States	2016-02-20
nickell nickell	Colorado Springs, CO, United States	2016-02-20
Areli Simpson	Caldwell, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Claudine Judy	Idaho Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Mollee Bird	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Brad Shaw	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Angela Fish	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Elyssa Christensen	McCall, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Lindsay Stone	Layton, UT, United States	2016-02-20
Julie Arevalo	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Lisa Johnson	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Namcy Merrill	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jolene Hurst	Rigby, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Deb Winward	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jodie Hansen	Idaho Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Claudia Love Mair	Lexington, KY, United States	2016-02-20
Rachel Moore	Rexburg, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Glenn Wilson	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Elizabeth Mashburn	Sugar City, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jacob Wilkins	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Mechela Hunter	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Billiejo Campbell	Post Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Rachel Budge	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jennifer Barker	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Amanda Perry	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Emily Hammond	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Josh Austin	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Marlea rowley	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Michelle Florence	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Charyl Schouman	Lehi, UT, United States	2016-02-20

Name	Location	Date
RaShel Ferrin	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Michele Vogt	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
karina schreiber	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Shawny Grove	Albion, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Kaelyn Dodge	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Denise Ziemba	Valencia, CA, United States	2016-02-20
Jodie Lemon	American Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Holly Ranstrom	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Nicole Ray	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Lindsay Fuhriman	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Stephanie Hamilton	Declo, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Tracie Wood	Caldwell, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Natalie Waltman	Caldwell, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Alissa Lyon	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Anna Hales	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Sharolyn Ririe	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Christy Smith	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Richard Williams	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Kara Walker	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jasmin Tricic	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Lacey Florence	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Wendy Cannon	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
kate romney	Gilbert, AZ, United States	2016-02-20
Laura Swift	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Carrie Shores	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Stephanie MILLER	Caldwell, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Crystal Greaves	Twin Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Sherstine Mortensen	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jennifer Hagler	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jessica Mortensen	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Chantelle Payne	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Heather Lui	Lindon, UT, United States	2016-02-20

Name	Location	Date
Amber Crowley	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jade Enzler	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Patricia Risinger	Palmdale, CA, United States	2016-02-20
Mary Maxine McCombs	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Elizabeth Dillon	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Delilah Reed	Declo, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Tim Chandler	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Edward Laurson	Denver, CO, United States	2016-02-20
Lori Grubb	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Leighanna Pilling	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Bingham Erin	Idaho Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Cindy Zacks	Joshua Tree, CA, United States	2016-02-20
Lorin Forester	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Abbey Grames	Kuna, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Carolyn Glover	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Kelsey McCracken	Billings, MT, United States	2016-02-20
Araksya Gevorgyan	Gallatin, MO, United States	2016-02-20
Kara Ciffin	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Nancy Aydelotte	Caldwell, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Candice Hawkley	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Michelle Warner	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Kristi Cantrill	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Jennifer Galloway	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Natalie Christensen	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Amanda Thompson	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Tara Daniels	Baytown, TX, United States	2016-02-20
Tina Masee	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Rachel Olson	Idaho Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Shasta Morford	Parma, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Cathleen Heaton	Caldwell, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Tyler Pooley	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-20
Rhonda Johnson	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-20

Name	Location	Date
Melissa Mendez	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Dave Mendez	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Natalie Pooley	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Naomi Wolff	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Audrey Luis	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Michael Luis	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Angie Rockwood	Idaho Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Brian McCauley	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Renee Sholly	Cordova, TN, United States	2016-02-21
Arlene McCauley	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Tiffany Howard	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Heather Walker	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Leah Sarnowski	Escanaba, MI, United States	2016-02-21
Martin sibley	Fort Riley, KS, United States	2016-02-21
Amy Christensen	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Howard Murphy	Pocatello, ID, United States	2016-02-21
LaNae Gabrielsen	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Erika McCauley	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Brooke Jones	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Dorothy Egbert	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
scott smith	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Brenda Noe	Emmett, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Jesse Bilyeu	Idaho Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Jeffrey Rinker	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Shantay Nelson	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Chris Martin	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Kristen Whitby	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Kristen McCoy	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Lindsey Stokes	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Crissy Williams	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Amy Rice	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Allison Santiago	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-21

Name	Location	Date
Jessica Richards	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Kim Allen	Spring Hill, TN, United States	2016-02-21
Kelsey Fackrell	Horseshoe Bend, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Angela Williams	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Leslie Davis	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Terri Fife	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Jessica Fuller	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Neidy Messer	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Makaila Johnson	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Deborah Young	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Becky Evans	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Korbin Voss	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Lara Feik	Ririe, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Krista Hegstrom	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Angela Hill	Idaho Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Teresa Wheeler	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Aryn Sampson	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Niesha Richardson	American Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Joe Soelberg	Cascade, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Derek Stokes	Preston, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Chelsea Hanaen	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Janette Gambrel	Idaho Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Marcy Ellsworth	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Amanda Hood	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Lindsey Tyler	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Stephanie Joiner	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Scott Snelders	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Angel Leslie	kuna, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Nicole Howell	Kuna, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Patricia Gibbens	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Matt Pfeifer	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Teri Huffaker	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21

Name	Location	Date
Ronda Cecil	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Brynn Stinger	Pocatello, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Kirk Tingey	Melba, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Keith McCauley	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Kiley Thompson	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Shayla Wagner	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Adele Aston	Heyburn, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Sean Walker	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Amy Barnwell	Rexburg, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Shana Wright	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Melonnie Northcut	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Jessica Ashby	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Connie Hill	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Brenda Palmer	Mesa, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Dallas Forester	Twin Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Sandra Rowe	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Brandon Waltman	Caldwell, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Brandon Pugmire	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Karen Bowlden	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
jared cheney	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Debbie Siddoway	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Nickelle Weekes	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Haley Hamblin	Preston, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Chloe Valencia	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Kathleen Walker	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Taylor Young	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Jacquelyn Lawson	Pocatello, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Alina Mendenhall	Rexburg, ID, United States	2016-02-21
David Smith	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Rachel Thacker	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Kathy LaFaunce	Burley, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Julia Christopherson	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21

Name	Location	Date
Vicki Asay	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Donna Williams	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Lindsay Byram	Rigby, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Robyn Baird	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Aubrie Hernandez	Albuquerque, NM, United States	2016-02-21
Amanda Peterson	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Melodie Cole	Rupert, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Emily Nelson	Malad City, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Brian Stayner	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Dawn Garren	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Derek Call	Tampa, FL, United States	2016-02-21
April Hamilton	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Kathrine Stayner	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Amy Jensen	Lehi, UT, United States	2016-02-21
Jennifer Chitwood	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Michelle Smidt	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Melissa Hebdon	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Juliette Blaser	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Markey DeRoest	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Shanna Rose	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Shanna Clark	Midvale, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Audrey Blanchard	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Erika Davis	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
John Rutter	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Sarah Brown	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Cheryl Gibson	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Charlene Ruff	Pocatello, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Mary Sorenson	Twin Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Jaimee Sohn	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Luke Merrill	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
jem oliver	Fareham, ENG, United Kingdom	2016-02-21
Nick Reid	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-21

Name	Location	Date
Kimberly Davis	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Mikaela Johnson	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Nikka Jones	Pocatello, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Kortney Peterson	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-21
ammon covino	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Kimberly Hubbard	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Becky Eldredge	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Shawna Ramos	Kuna, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Jerry Bruneel	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Diaria Ramey	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Ciara Thacker	Midvale, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Amber Reese	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Brittany Homan	Filer, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Hayden Richards	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-21
Sean Merrill	Emmett, ID, United States	2016-02-22
James Glasgow	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Michael Puterbaugh	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Erin Porter	Twin Falls, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Jeanne Rose	Filer, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Jake Merrill	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Bryan Medaris	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Blake Poole	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Brian Hymas	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Hyrum Wilson	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Laurie Nelson	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Malary Hansen	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Aimee Craig	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Lane Ranstrom	Middleton, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Dan Strauss	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Mark McClure	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Joan Swensen	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Allan Roby	Brentwood, CA, United States	2016-02-22

Name	Location	Date
Rhiannon Blum	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Ray Olson	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Alice Foster	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-22
zola June cheney	Boise, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Sheldon Stanford	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Talia Gilbert	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Erica Bird	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Pam Pugmire	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Gina Nilsson	Pocatello, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Becky Storm	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Jill Baird	Star, ID, United States	2016-02-22
Kathleen Turley	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-23
Matt Fowler	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-23
Paula Pieksma	Nampa, ID, United States	2016-02-23
Dawn Wright	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-23
Amy Moore	Eagle, ID, United States	2016-02-23
Rachelle Dille	Filer, ID, United States	2016-02-23
Michelle Cheney	Bonney Lake, WA, United States	2016-02-23
Pasha Carter	Cleburne, TX, United States	2016-02-23
Jennifer Reed	Meridian, ID, United States	2016-02-23



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March 10, 2016

TO: Members of the Senate Ag Affairs Committee

FR: Wyatt Prescott, President
Food Producers of Idaho

H531

Food Producers of Idaho, representing over 40 agriculture and commodity organizations in Idaho and the Northwest, has discussed biosecurity dealing with intentional damages to agricultural facilities and **has voted to support and track H531.**

The membership agrees that their facilities should be firmly protected against crimes intended to infect crops or livestock products at agricultural operations with diseases or poison. It is also of the utmost importance that Idaho continues to protect our food supply and economic stability in agriculture.

Those who knowingly release or spread any type of contagious, communicable or infectious disease or poison on a crop or livestock at an agriculture facility have made the clear decision that the health and safety of the public, respect for private property and well being of a family or owner, is secondary to their opinions. They not only would have made the choice to hold an opinion in contrast to what is allowed by law and society at large, but would make the distinction that they know better and, with planning and forethought, would act contrary to the law.

H531 not only provides protection for farmers, ranchers and processors but also provides protection for consumers. Food Producers of Idaho is asking for your support of **H531** and your **"YES"** vote on this measure.

Current membership on reverse side